

OF TUNISIA (Illustrated)  
**COUNTRY LIFE**

On Sale

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## PERSONAL

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## PERSONAL

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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCI No. 2407.

MARCH 5, 1943.

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May 1943 3771  
(10)

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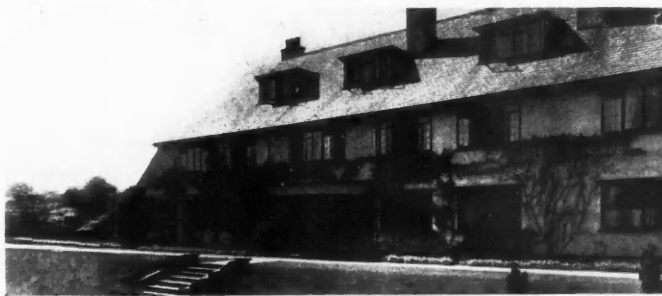
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IN THE GRAFTON AND BICESTER COUNTRY.

Within 4 miles of a main line station with express service to London and the North.

### PICTURESQUE BRICK AND SLATED RESIDENCE

IN GOOD ORDER, APPROACHED BY CARRIAGE DRIVE,

and containing: 6 best bedrooms, 3 or 4 servants' bedrooms, 2 well-fitted bathrooms, hall, billiards room, and 3 reception rooms.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND DRAINAGE. GOOD WATER SUPPLY.

HUNTER STABLING FOR 6. HEATED GARAGE FOR 3 CARS, AND MEN'S ROOMS.

### 2 STONE-BUILT COTTAGES

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GARDEN, THRIVING ORCHARDS AND EXCELLENT WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN (1 GARDENER), TOGETHER WITH SOME GOOD GRAZING AND ARABLE LAND, IN ALL ABOUT

63 ACRES

OF WHICH ABOUT 59 ACRES ARE LET ON A YEARLY TENANCY AT 6 MONTHS' MUTUAL NOTICE.

Vacant possession of the remainder, with one cottage, can be had on completion

Inspected and strongly recommended by: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (52,130).

FOR SALE.

## BETWEEN THE MOORFOOT AND LAMMERMUIR HILLS

### ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE

1,026 ACRES, OF WHICH 800 ACRES ARE ARABLE

PLEASANTLY SITUATED RESIDENCE WITH SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

4 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 dressing rooms, bathroom. Main electric light and power. COMMODIOUS FARM STEADING. 9 COTTAGES. SHELTER WOODLANDS.

RENTAL £720. BURDENS £51 10s.

PRICE £14,000

POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

Particulars from the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (83,180).



Regent  
4304

## OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,  
PICCADILLY, W.1

### OXON

In a beautiful position on high ground with really delightful views.

#### AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

Standing in well-timbered gardens and grounds.

With hall, 3/4 reception, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms.

Co.'s electric light and power. Central heating. Garage and useful Outbuildings.

Lawns, Hard Tennis Court, well-stocked Fruit and Vegetable Garden, etc. In all about

2 ACRES

For Sale FREEHOLD

Full details from: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,349)

### BERKS

In the favoured Maidenhead district within convenient reach of the station.

#### AN ATTRACTIVE, MODERN TUDOR STYLE RESIDENCE

South-west aspect. Gravel soil

Hall, 2 reception, 6/7 bedrooms, bathroom.

All main services. Central heating.

Small well-disposed gardens including tennis court, kitchen garden, etc.

For Sale Freehold

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M.2332)

### ESSEX AND SUFFOLK BORDERS

In beautiful country on the outskirts of a quiet village

#### A DELIGHTFUL OLD MANOR HOUSE



Principally Elizabethan, standing in charming well-timbered grounds.

Lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.

Electric light. Stabling. Garage.

Fully matured gardens, tennis court, orchard, paddock, etc. In all

ABOUT 6½ ACRES

ONLY £2,750

Full details from: OSBORN & MERCER. (M.2244)

### DEVON (between TOTNES and KINGSBRIDGE

2 MILES OF TROUT FISHING IN RIVER HARBOURNE

#### Capital Small Farm

Including Stone-built Residence, 5 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, modern bathroom. Splendid set of stone farm buildings and well-watered land, the whole in a ring fence and extending to ABOUT 84 ACRES.

ONLY £3,750

Further particulars from: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M.2344)

### 650 FT. UP ON SURREY HILLS

An Ideal Property for the London Business Man.

To be Sold. ONLY £3,000

#### AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-PLANNED HOUSE OF CHARACTER

with 2/3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Company's services. Garage.

Delightful gardens with tennis and other lawns, flower gardens, orchard, kitchen garden, etc.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER. (M.2275)

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1  
(Euston 7009)

## MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1.  
(Regent 4685)

OF SPECIAL APPEAL TO A CITY MAN. The Lease of over 900 years for Sale of an EXTREMELY WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE, close to Hampstead Heath, standing approximately in 2½ ACES of private grounds, 4 ground-floor reception rooms, non-basement domestic rooms, 3 bathrooms, bedrooms. Garage with flat roof. Agents: MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, W.1.

BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS. WILLETTS PARK. A beautifully-fitted, 4 roomed house, with the advantage of a private garage. LEASE FOR SALE. Particulars of: MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, W.1. (Tel.: Regent 4685)

### WOKING, SURREY

Near several good Golf Courses. ½ mile station.

#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD

A PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE, built of brick of the finest materials, with oak floors to ground floor. 3 reception, billiards room, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room, modern conveniences. Garage for 2 cars. Grounds of 1 ACRE, with tennis lawn, kitchen garden, etc.

PRICE £4,000

Agents: MAPLE & Co., 5, Grafton Street, Mayfair, W.1.

### KENT, CHISLEHURST

Occupying a pleasant and most convenient situation.

#### TO BE SOLD

EXCELLENT HOUSE, with well-proportioned rooms, containing: Fine lounge hall, drawing room, dining room; small study, 7 bedrooms, bathroom, maids' sitting room, etc. Large garage, etc.

#### MODERATE PRICE

Recommended by the Agents: MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

### VALUATIONS

FURNITURE and EFFECTS valued for Insurance, Probate, etc.

### FURNITURE SALES

Conducted in Town and Country

APPLY—MAPLE & Co., 5, GRAFTON STREET, OLD BOND STREET, W.1.

23, MOUNT ST.,  
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

## WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor  
1441

### WILTSHIRE

In lovely country. 400 ft. up.

**CHARMING STONE-BUILT AND TILED TUDOR HOUSE** of DELIGHTFUL CHARACTER. In first-rate order with every modern convenience. 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception. Stabling. Garage. Cottage. Charming gardens and rich pasture.

**ABOUT 50 ACRES ONLY £6,000**

Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

### 30 MILES SOUTH OF LONDON

**SINGULARLY CHARMING OLD-WORLD HOUSE** of GEORGIAN CHARACTER. delightfully placed in well-timbered grounds and parklands. 12 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, fine hall, 3 reception. Electric light. Central heating, etc. Garage and stabling. Cottages, etc.

**FOR SALE WITH 300 ACRES**

Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

### WANTED

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION NOT ESSENTIAL.

**A HOUSE OF CHARACTER.** PREFERABLY GEORGIAN TYPE, with 12 bedrooms, 3-4 bathrooms, etc. 2-3 cottages. Home farm, if possible, and 150-250 Acres. Hants, Wilts, Glos, Berks, West Sussex, etc.

Likely places will be immediately inspected and **GOOD PRICE PAID FOR THE RIGHT PLACE.**

Particulars and photos to: WILSON & Co. (Ref. G. N.), as above.

### UP TO £5,000 OFFERED

**FOR AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL HOUSE.** PREFERABLY OLD, with 5-7 bedrooms and, say, 4-10 Acres. Main services. Cottage, if possible. Any nice district within 150 miles S., S.W., or W. of London. Can wait 6 months for possession. Replies to: WILSON & Co. (Ref. H.), as above.

### WEST SUSSEX

IN THIS NOTEDLY BEAUTIFUL DISTRICT, HIGH UP, WITH SUPERB PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE SOUTH DOWNS.

**BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM AND CHARACTER**

Every modern comfort and convenience. Polished oak floors, panelled walls. Luxurious bathrooms, etc.

10 BEDROOMS, 5 BATHROOMS, FINE HALL AND 4 RECEPTION ROOMS.

Stabling. Garages. 3 modern cottages.

SET WITHIN LOVELY OLD GARDENS AND PARK.

The whole place is in perfect order throughout and is undoubtedly one of the most charming estates in the Home Counties.

**NEARLY 100 ACRES**

**FOR SALE**

Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

OXFORD  
4673.8.

## JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

OXFORD & CHIPPING NORTON

CHIPPING  
NORTON  
39

**NO COMMISSION REQUIRED FROM THE VENDORS**

### WANTED TO PURCHASE

(a) **INDIVIDUAL FARMS OR BLOCKS OF FARMS FOR INVESTMENT OF COLLEGE FUNDS.** Owners may remain as Tenants or existing Tenants would not be disturbed.

(b) **AN AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF 1,000 TO 4,000 ACRES UPON BEHALF OF A TRUST.** Replies addressed to—THE PRINCIPAL, JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, Oxford (who are acting for the buyers), will be treated in confidence.

### IN A PICTURESQUE OXFORDSHIRE VILLAGE

OVERLOOKING THE WINDRUSH VALLEY **MODERN COTSWOLD-STYLE RESIDENCE.** 2 sitting rooms, maids' sitting room, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electric light and water supply. Telephone. Central heating. Garage and other outbuildings. Guests' bungalow (2 bedrooms). Entrance lodge (let). Garden and paddock, in all about 4½ ACRES.

**PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000.**

Apply: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

**SITUATED IN A PLEASANT WILTSHIRE VILLAGE**  
BETWEEN HUNGERFORD AND MARLBOROUGH.



**PRETTY MODERNISED COTTAGE RESIDENCE** (converted from four old cottages). 3 sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electric light and power. Main water supply. Telephone. Charming "cottage" garden, planted with fruit trees and roses, about ¼ ACRE. Adjoining 1¼ ACRES paddock could be purchased in addition. Early possession. **PRICE FREEHOLD £3,250.**

Apply: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

### WANTED TO PURCHASE

**IN BERKS, BUCKS OR OXON.** Within daily reach of London, and easy access of Roman Catholic church. Character House: not modern. 6/8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Preferably main services. Telephone. Central heating. Cottage or accommodation for gardener. Land up to 20 ACRES, mostly pasture. A good price would be paid by—"Mrs. W.," c/o JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford, for a property conforming with these requirements.

### IN A GLORIOUS POSITION ON THE OXON-BUCKS BORDERS

600 ft. above sea level.

**GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**, built of mellowed red brick. 3¼ sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms. Main electric light and power. Excellent water supply. Telephone. Central heating. Garage and ample stabling. About 2½ ACRES. (Gardener's cottage and adjoining 10 ACRES paddock could be rented in addition.)

**PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000.**

Apply: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

## FRAMPTON BAKER & CO.

MANVERS HOUSE, MANVERS ST., BATH. Tel. 3352.

### A DELIGHTFUL SOMERSETSHIRE PROPERTY IN A SETTING OF INCOMPARABLE CHARM

300 ft. up and 15 minutes' parkland walk of the ancient Roman City of Bath—"England's Premier Spa."

### 5 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS

TENNIS COURTS AND GOLF ADJOINING.

Heated garages. Level domestic offices, 5 staff rooms, lounge, dining and reception rooms, 16 guests' bedrooms (running h. & c. softened water), 6 bathrooms. Waygood-Otis electric passenger lift. Central heating throughout, including radiator bedrooms. Luxurious refinement. Air raid shelters.

**OFFERED ENTIRELY FREEHOLD AT £12,000**

**EX CONTENTS VALUED AT £5,000**

Now a successful Hotel, but equally suited for Private Residence, Nursing Home, School, etc.

FRAMPTON BAKER & Co., the Sole Agents, Manvers House Manvers St., Bath. (Tel. 3352).

### CHELTEMHAM AND NORTH COTSWOLDS

G. H. BAYLEY & SONS

(Established over three-quarters of a Century).

ESTATE AGENTS, SURVEYORS, AUCTIONEERS.

27, PROMENADE, CHELTEMHAM.  
(Tel.: 2102.)

### DEVON and S. & W. COUNTIES

THE ONLY COMPLETE

ILLUSTRATED REGISTER

Price 2/6

SELECTED LISTS FREE

RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.  
(Est. 1884.) EXETER.

### WANTED TO PURCHASE

**£10,000-£15,000 WILL BE PAID** for a really well-equipped MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE, within about 80-85 MILES OF LONDON, for preference in HANTS, BERKS, OXON or BUCKS. Not more than 6-8 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms and central heating essential. 10-100 ACRES of land, and one or two cottages would be the ideal size. Possession within about 6 months. Please send full particulars with photographs to—Mr. "H. L.," c/o JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

**WANTED on the BERKS or WILTS DOWNS**, Georgian House for choice, with 6 bedrooms, stabling for 2, and 2 cottages, if possible. Not less than about 8 Acres—"Banker," c/o JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

**£20,000 WILL BE PAID** for a well-equipped SMALL HOUSE, preferably of the MANOR FARMHOUSE TYPE, with modernised farm (dairy or mixed) of 100-250 ACRES, within about 80 miles of London, including the Eastern Counties. Possession of house and farm not later than Michaelmas essential. The house must be up to date, with electric light, heating, and 2 to 3 bathrooms. Will owners or agents please send fullest particulars, with photographs, if possible, and plans to—"H. L.," c/o JOHN D. WOOD AND Co. No commission required.

**WANTED in SURREY or SUSSEX**, Farmhouse, with 6 bedrooms and upwards of 100 Acres for pedigree herd—"Jersey," c/o JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

### WELSH RIVIERA

5 minutes Ferryride Station (near Carmarthen) G.W.R. main line.



View by appointment: HUGHES, Royston Court, Ferryride, Carmarthen.  
(Tel.: Ferryride 231.)

**ROYSTON COURT, FOR SALE.** A LOVELY ELIZABETHAN STYLE. Built 1906, regardless of cost. In about 1 ACRE. Opposite Devon, overlooks Llanstephan Castle, sea and estuary (fishing). 3 reception, including large panelled hall with carved oak fireplace, 5 bedrooms, linen and cloakrooms, bathroom, conservatory, vines. Commodious outbuildings. Big garage. Walled fruit. Tennis lawn. Co.'s water, electricity.

**PRICE £3,000**

(Half could rest on mortgage).

184, BROMPTON ROAD,  
LONDON, S.W.3.

## BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kenington  
0152-3

### MIDHURST, WEST SUSSEX

VERY RARELY OFFERED

**CHARMING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE** (EARLY 18TH CENTURY). All upon 2 floors. 3 reception, 5 large and 3 small bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electric light and water. Stabling. Garage, etc. Gardens, wood and paddock.

**10½ ACRES FREEHOLD £7,000**

Photos and appointment to view from Owner's Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY AND BALDRY, as above.

**SURREY, nr. EAST GRINSTEAD**  
Midway London and Brighton.

**PICTURESQUE LITTLE PERIOD COUNTRY HOUSE.** PART DATING XVIII CENTURY. Full of oak, open fireplaces, etc. Modernised and with main water, electric light, fitted basins, central heating. Hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Pretty gardens, orchard. Nearly 2 ACRES. **MUST BE SOLD AT ONCE** owing to business change of plans. **IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. FREEHOLD ONLY £2,950. ABSOLUTE BARGAIN. VIEW QUICKLY.**

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

**JUST AVAILABLE FINE POSITION BETWEEN WINCHESTER & PETERSFIELD ACCREDITED DAIRY SHEEP AND ARABLE FARM. 525 ACRES. 2 SUPERIOR FARMHOUSES. 4 sets of farm buildings, tying for 60 head. 9 cottages. All the land in excellent heart. Bounded and intersected by Council roads. Water laid on to most meadows. 120 Acres pasture, 345 Acres arable. 60 Acres woods.**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION.**

Sole Agents:

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

**RECOGNISED AS ONE OF THE RICHEST FARMING ESTATES IN CORNWALL**

Allowing first-class Farming. Caring large herd of S. Devon cattle and extensive milk production. Bounded three sides by river and streams. 1 MILE GOOD TIDY FISHING.

**460 ACRES**  
220 Acres rich feeding pasture. 170 Acres deep fertile arable, producing marvellous crops. Orchards and woodland. Superior farmhouse. 3 sets buildings. 5 cottages. Vacant possession.

**FREEHOLD ONLY £16,000**

**EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY**  
BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.



## ESTATE

## HARRODS

## OFFICES

Kensington 1490

Telegrams:

"Estate, Harrods, London."

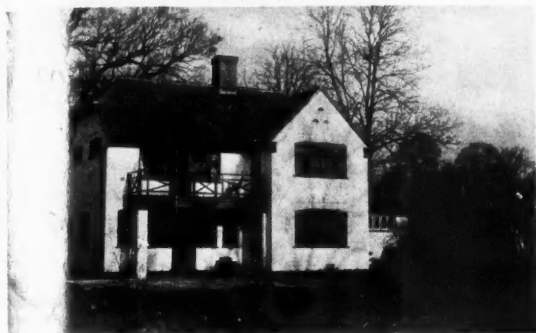
KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE

62/64, BROMPTON RD., LONDON, S.W.1

West Byfleet  
and Haslemere  
Offices

## LEATHERHEAD AND GUILDFORD c.4

Close to extensive common, secluded position adjoining farm-lands, easy reach of shops, station and buses.



## FASCINATING MODERN COTTAGE

WITH MANY FEATURES OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

An L-shaped lounge with inglenook, dining room, downstairs cloakroom, 3 good bedrooms, sun balcony, tiled bathroom, loggia. Garage.

INEXPENSIVE AND WIDE GARDEN OF ABOUT

 $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRE

EARLY POSSESSION.

ONLY £2,750 FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 806.)

## HEALTHY

c.3

## KINGSWOOD &amp; TADWORTH DISTRICT

Beautifully placed, about 600 ft. above sea level, within easy reach of first-class Golf and only about 2 miles from the famous Walton Heath Course.

## MOST ATTRACTIVE AND EASILY RUN RESIDENCE



3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, billiards room. Modern drainage. Co.'s electric light, gas and water.

## GARAGE.

Secluded gardens with tennis and other lawns, herbaceous borders, kitchen garden, in all about

 $1\frac{1}{4}$  ACRES

## FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 807.)

## HARPENDEN AND ST. ALBANS c.2

Amid delightful hilly country, half a mile from village, 1 mile station, 25 miles London.



## FASCINATING TUDOR COTTAGE

ALTERED AND FASHIONED INTO A RESIDENCE FOR GENTLEFOLK.

4 reception, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maids' sitting room. Main electricity and power. Excellent water. Central heating. Garage for 2.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS, TOGETHER WITH ORCHARD AND SMALL FIELD, IN ALL ABOUT

3 ACRES

FREEHOLD £5,250

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)

## REDHILL

c.4

Walking distance of the station. 30 minutes London.



## SOLIDLY BUILT LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE

3 reception rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms (5 with lavatory basins), bathroom, complete offices.

ALL COMPANIES' MAINS. GARAGE.

## DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GARDEN

WITH LAWNS, KITCHEN GARDEN, ETC.

ONLY £2,800 FREEHOLD

VACANT POSSESSION.

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 806.)

## GERRARDS CROSS AND AMERSHAM c.3

In a much sought-after neighbourhood, on high ground with good views.

## ARTISTICALLY DESIGNED RESIDENCE

(Away from main road.)

Hall, 2 reception, 5 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom. Modern drainage. Co.'s electric light. Central heating. Main water. Garage.

## WELL-MATURED GARDENS.

Lawn, vegetable garden, fruit trees, meadow.

In all about

 $2\frac{3}{4}$  ACRES

## FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and recommended by:

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 807.)

## PROBABLY THE BEST BARGAIN IN THE MARKET c.2

PRICE ONLY £4,500 FREEHOLD

## BUCKS AND NORTHANTS BORDERS

In delightful country, convenient for village. 7 miles County Town.

## A GENTLEMAN'S PLEASURE FARM

INCLUDING A

## GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

with 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maids' sitting room. Main electricity. Complete central heating. Fitted basins in bedrooms.

WELL WATER WITH ELECTRIC PUMP. GARAGE. LOOSE BOXES. COWHOUSES, ETC. COTTAGE OF 6 ROOMS.

WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS, TOGETHER WITH AN AREA OF PASTURELAND, IN ALL ABOUT

32 ACRES

INTERSECTED BY A BROOK.

In addition there is a picturesque block of SIX GEORGIAN COTTAGES Let on Weekly Tenancies, producing £50 Per Annum, Tenants paying Rates.

Sole Agents:

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)

**BOURNEMOUTH:**  
 ERNEST FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
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**BRIGHTON:**  
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## DORSET

4 miles Sturminster Newton, 12 miles Blandford, 17 miles Dorchester.

### AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE

ALL IN PERFECT CONDITION

5 bedrooms (all with wash-basins), large  
 boxroom, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, loggia,  
 complete domestic offices.



For orders to view apply: Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER.  
 ELECTRIC COOKER. GARAGE FOR  
 3 CARS. STABLING. COLD FRAME.  
 GREENHOUSE.

NICELY ARRANGED GARDENS AND  
 GROUNDS, Paddock. IN ALL ABOUT

8¾ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £4,000

## STRATHMARTINE ESTATE

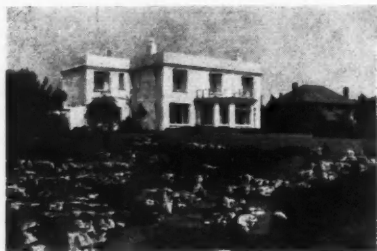
MANY OF THE FARMS ON THIS VALUABLE ESTATE, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY OF DUNDEE have now been sold, but one  
 or two Valuable Holdings as under are still available, and form sound and safe investments, practically on a 5 per cent. basis:

	Acres.	Rent.	Stipend.	Price.
BALDRAGON FARM ... ..	199	£325	£13	£6,200
BRACKENS FARM ... ..	77	£102	£3	£1,950
MARYFIELD FARM ... ..	45	£64	£2	£1,200

All the above have good Houses and Buildings and owing to their situation will always command the best of Tenants. Full particulars and plans  
 will be sent on application to—Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

### CANFORD CLIFFS, BOURNEMOUTH

Occupying an unrivalled position with magnificent views  
 over the Parkstone Golf Course to the sea and Purbeck Hills.  
 With private entrance to Parkstone Golf Course.



### A SOUNDLY CONSTRUCTED MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

IN EXCELLENT STATE OF REPAIR.

5 bedrooms (4 fitted basins, h. & c.), dressing room, 3 well-  
 equipped bathrooms, lounge hall, large lounge, dining room,  
 sun lounge with Vita glass windows, flower room, servants'  
 sitting room, good kitchen and offices.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS. ALL MAIN SERVICES.  
 THE INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS INCLUDE LAWNS,  
 SUNK ROSE GARDEN, LILY POOL, SHRUBBERIES,  
 ETC. IN ALL ABOUT

2 ACRES

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, 52, Poole Road,  
 Bournemouth West.

### UNSOLD AT AUCTION. BY DIRECTION OF THE EXECUTOR.

### ON THE EDGE OF THE NEW FOREST

About 1½ miles from a main line station. 6 miles from  
 Brockenhurst. 12 miles from Bournemouth.

The Delightful Freehold Residential  
 Property,

“BASHLEY HOUSE,” BASHLEY,  
 NEW MILTON.

6 principal bedrooms, 4 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,  
 3 reception rooms, kitchen and offices.

Electric lighting plant. Company's gas and water.

COTTAGE. GARAGE. GREENHOUSE.

ORNAMENTAL AND KITCHEN GARDENS, WOOD-  
 LANDS, THE WHOLE COVERING AN AREA OF  
 ABOUT

18 ACRES

LOW PRICE, £3,300 FREEHOLD

For particulars apply:  
 Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

### BRANKSOME PARK, BOURNEMOUTH

Situated a few yards from the seashore. Commanding  
 magnificent uninterrupted marine views. Enjoying a  
 Southerly aspect.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD

### THIS CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE

FITTED WITH ALL COMFORTS AND  
 CONVENIENCES.

5 principal and 2 servants' bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms,  
 4 well-fitted bathrooms, sun lounge, dining room, morning  
 room, sitting room, lounge hall, servants' sitting room,  
 good offices.

BRICK-BUILT GARAGE. ALL MAIN SERVICES.  
 CENTRAL HEATING. WELL LAID OUT GARDENS.

PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD

Fox & Sons, 52, Poole Road, Bournemouth West.



*Economical  
milk cooling* BY

## PRESTCOLD EQUIPMENT

"Prestcold" Milk Cooling Equipment incorporates sturdy twin cylinder slow-running refrigeration units and positive automatic control without risk of Milk dilution. The equipment is entirely British made and available against licenses. Servicing facilities are available in all parts of the country.

Inspections and schemes arranged according to requirements

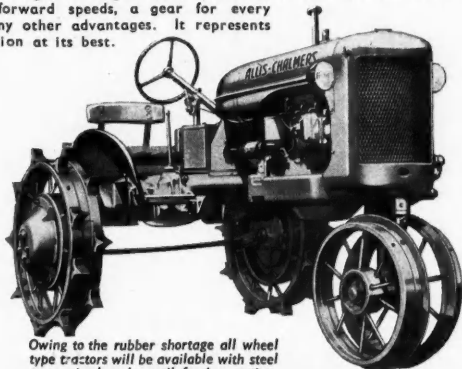


**PRESSED STEEL COMPANY LTD.**  
COWLEY, OXFORD • POWER ROAD, CHISWICK W.4  
353, CHESTER ROAD, MANCHESTER

*It will pay  
you to farm  
with this  
ROW-CROP  
TRACTOR*

THE  
ALLIS-CHALMERS  
MODEL  
"C"  
ON STEEL WHEELS

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# Mr. Chase— to 'Mr. Gardener'

Pond House, Chertsey, Surrey.

MARCH, 1943.

DEAR MR. GARDENER,

A good many people will be starting their sowing season this month, but I hope you will have nearly finished yours, as you will have made the majority of your sowings under cloches. There are, of course, a few crops that could not have been sown earlier; perhaps the most important of these is *French beans*. There are many good varieties, and most people have their own favourite. Mine is *Masterpiece*. Long Barns are probably the best cloches to use; in fact, they were originally designed for dwarf beans and dwarf peas, as they are just big enough to keep the crop covered the whole time. It is safest to wait until the last week of March before you sow, as *French beans* are not hardy. You can, of course, get a continuous supply from June to October, or even November in the South, by sowing at fortnightly intervals.

\* \* \*

*Runners* should be in about the middle of the month. As I told you in my last letter, a useful way of saving ground is to sow them down the middle of a double row of lettuces. These are the lettuces that you put out in January from an October sowing, and they will be ready to cut at any time now. They will be off the ground long before the runners are tall enough to be interfered with. It is a good plan to put in a little artificial as a top dressing when sowing the seed, as the ground will have to support a double crop for three to four weeks.

\* \* \*

You can start your *Beetroot* at the end of March under cloches. Soak the seeds overnight in water to get quicker germination. Quick germination is always important; with salads it tends to make them crisper and better tasting, and it is thought to have an influence on the liability to "bolt," tending to prevent this.

\* \* \*

You should be thinking of *Tomatoes* towards the end of March. As a matter of fact, many people in this district and in warmer parts of the South put their plants out towards the end of this month and, although there is a slight risk in doing this, it is worth it on account of the greatly increased crop. The risk is, of course, that we shall have late and prolonged frosts in May, but if the cloches are covered at night with mats or sacking, the plants should survive any but the very coldest weather. Even if you delay your planting until the first or second week in April it is not too early to start preparing the ground.

\* \* \*

If your soil is not too heavy and you are not too much rushed for time, I would advise preparing special trenches, 9 ins. deep and 1 ft. to 18 ins. wide. The width, of course, will depend on the size of cloche you are going to use; don't make it too wide or the sides will very likely fall in and leave the cloches without support. Trenches give quite a lot of extra protection and will be a great help later on, as they virtually increase the height of the cloches and so enable them to be kept on longer. Watering is made a good deal easier, as this can be done with hose or can at one end, the water being allowed to flow to the other. Fork up the bottom of the trench, and put in some stable manure if you have any; pig manure is too strong unless it is well mixed with peat or leaf mould.

\* \* \*

If you have to rely on fertilisers, bone meal is the best to use, and you should put in potash if you have any available. If the only potash you have is in the form of wood ash, wait until the plants have been in the ground for a week or two before applying it. Be very sparing of anything of a nitrogenous nature, as too much nitrogen tends to make plants luxuriant in leaf but sappy and prone to disease. A rough rule is: "Potash when young—nitrogen when old."

\* \* \*

During March, "Dig for Victory" shows are being held all over the north of England and Scotland. Make sure you attend your local show, as you are bound to pick up a few useful tips. You will see cloches "demonstrated" and photos and films of every garden operation.

*J.H. Chase.*

"Three-Year Growing Chart" for gardens and allotments. Post free 1s.  
"Cloches v. Hitler." The best handbook for Cloche-users. Post free 6d.



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# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIII No. 2407

MARCH 5, 1943



*Harlip*

MRS. RICHARD ANDERSON

Mrs. Anderson, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. J. H. Wybergh, of Heath Brow, Ewshott, Hampshire, is the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Neville Anderson, The King's Own Royal Regiment.

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## ALL-PARTY POLICY

LAST week produced at least three declarations of importance with regard to post-war agricultural policy. One came from the Royal Agricultural Society of England, that institutional heritage of the old "Improvers" to whom we owe so much, another from the Central Landowners' Association of which most representative body Lord Phillimore is now the Deputy-President, and the third from a group of members of the House of Lords holding various political creeds. A week before Lord De La Warr had asked the Government to implement the pledge—given two years ago on behalf of all political parties as well as the present Cabinet—to maintain a stable and prosperous agriculture. From the speeches made on that occasion by Lord Addison, Lord Bingley, Lord Crewe, Lord Cranworth and Lord Phillimore, it was clear that there would be no difficulty, so far as the House of Lords was concerned, in securing the necessary agreement about an "all-Party" policy such as is obviously desirable in the interests of continuity. On the heels of the debate has come a memorandum signed by many of those who took part in it (and by others of equal wisdom in agricultural matters) setting out "A Post-war Agricultural Policy for Great Britain," which has been definitely subscribed to by signatories holding almost every variety of political creed. "We have agreed," they say, "to proposals containing something which each of us might find difficult, if not impossible, to accept if we did not feel the overriding importance of the goal."

This example of practical tolerance deserves to be widely followed elsewhere. We are often told that toleration and compromise lead to flabby generalities. There is no sign of such cancelling-out here. The Memorandum is not only a clear and capable statement of the important points at issue but a plan for effective action which falls well within the region of practical politics. We advise all those who wish to clarify their thought to read it. An admirable distinction is drawn at the outset between those commodities of which we must produce a certain quantity in order to ensure good husbandry and those whose production must, as all agree, be expanded in the interest of the national health. For the first set the signatories "see no alternative to a policy based on import quotas"; for the second, nutrition dictates a 65 per cent. increase of milk production and greater production of vegetables, fruit and eggs. But milk can only be produced with maximum efficiency if the plough is taken round the farm to renew the pastures, and the Memorandum suggests that the normal wheat acreage necessary to efficient farming might be

fixed at that of 1939 plus, say, 10 per cent. With regard to the import quotas they are no strangers to this country, as students of our economic history remind us. A Central Import Board is proposed to superintend a policy of co-operation in an endeavour to stabilise the world agricultural situation by eliminating those catastrophic breaks in world prices which are so fatal to the producer.

In spite of the fact that some of the signatories have affiliations with an official policy of land nationalisation, they all accept the principle of private ownership, subject to control ensuring "good management." This being accepted, as they point out, capital must be made available. Landowners not credit-worthy must sell, but on the other hand the death duties should be abated to link with a system of allowances for capital expenditure. There is much justification for the proposal that the control of cultivation should be restored to landowners whose first duty it will be to see that all their land is used for its best production purpose. How can this be ensured? A Land Commission is proposed which would investigate in detail estates suspected of being badly managed. If owners fail to carry out specified works the Commission will have the power of purchase, giving the owners first an option to sell to approved buyers. There may, of course, be practical alternatives to some of the proposals of the Memorandum, but they have a dovetailing logic and common sense which makes them an admirable basis for action. To quote their authors, "happy-go-lucky farming, chaotic distribution and the landowner who is a mere rent-receiver are not the things which we can enjoy or endure and at the same time have a prosperous countryside."

## IN KAZVIN

*In Kazvin,  
I heard the Spring,  
Singing gaily in the trees,  
All ecstasy was on the breeze,  
Blowing through thin and leafless trees;  
The Spring! The Spring! The Spring!  
I heard her sing;  
In the throat of a small gay bird  
All the joy of life I heard,  
With snow on the roofs and the mountains high,  
Under a milky turquoise sky,  
With Kurds and Tartars passing by,  
In far Kazvin.*

G. W. R.

Kazvin, Persia.

## SIR WILLIAM AND GIANT SQUALOR

IN opening the Rebuilding Britain Exhibition at the National Gallery, Sir William Beveridge recalled that his Report planned an attack on only one of the giants in the way to reconstruction: Giant Want, which is in some ways the easiest to attack. He emphasised that Giant Squalor is even more formidable. The Exhibition, he suggested, provided the stones with which to fell that Goliath. The first stone is the planned use of land, polished by the Uthwatt Report. Without it, he asserted, Britain cannot be freed from squalor. Sane use of transport and power is the second, which he illustrated by comparing the campaign for a green belt round London with the simultaneous expansion of the Underground, which led to green spaces being destroyed ten times as fast as they could possibly be preserved. The third stone can be flung by the right use of the [right] architects, by which he meant those more concerned with the insides than the outsides of buildings. He did not belittle appearances, but stressed the even greater importance, in the homes of the future British race, of space for children and labour-saving equipment. Fourth, he set the maximum efficient organisation of the building industry, for which the Government's scheme for expansion and apprenticeship after the war, in return for the industry doing away with casual labour, is a welcome first instalment. With these four stones he believed the way could be cleared, provided "the heroic mood of war, our quickened sense of national duty, the joys of fellowship and service," are also carried on into peace.

## A COLOURED CENTENARY

THE author of *Tom Brown's Schooldays* wrote with something very like contempt of the velvet caps and coloured jerseys which had reinforced the School-house white trousers and plain leather straps of his own boyhood. Less stern critics will, however, celebrate sympathetically the centenary of "following up" caps at Rugby, with their magnificence of velvet and tassels and tinselled peaks. Just as there were brave men before Agamemnon, so there were colours before these; but the Rugby caps may fairly claim to be the forerunners of the systematised caps and colours, yes, and of the "despised old school tie" as we know them. If so they have been the source of some little absurdities, perhaps, but of a great deal of innocent pleasure. Nobody who had ever the most modest ambition as a game-player will ever forget the delirious moment at school when he was told that he might wear his first colour, and how he walked upon air on his way to the shop to get it. The entire panoply of cap, jersey, stockings and scarf has now been cut down and that rightly in view of the need for economy, but that matters little; an eighth of an inch of ribbon is as good as a medal, and a cap is as good as a feast of colours, as the badge of honourable service. Times have changed, and the Rugby football-player no longer wears his tasselled cap on the actual field of combat, but he can still hang it on the wall or, when he gets older, take now and then a sly, proud look at where it lies in a drawer.

## WILLOWS AND WALNUTS

EVERYBODY knows how important were yew and oak as woods of war in the past for bows and "wooden walls." In the last war we heard much of the use of ash in aeroplane construction, and in this beech wood is being employed. So much for great trees, but even so slight a species as the spindle may become valuable: two years ago it was noted that trees and bushes were being cut to make wooden skewers, because the metal kind were in short supply. And now willows and walnuts are receiving official attention. A recent order limited the uses to which basket willows may be put, and about the same time members of the Ecological Society were asked to send information about groups of fertile walnut trees because the Vitamin C content of walnuts had been found to be extraordinarily high. Willows were regarded as a thrifty peace-time crop long before small fortunes were made from cricket bat willows, for Fuller writes of it being a byword in this country, that the profit by willows will buy the owner a horse before that by other trees will pay for his saddle.

As for walnuts, during the Peninsular War the timber of a single specimen realised £600, and the boom caused many of the country's finest walnuts to be felled to make musket stocks.

## THE PARLOUR REDIVIVUS

ONCE upon a time the queen was in her parlour making bread and honey, and the spider asked the unsuspecting fly to walk into his parlour. Mayors and bankers still have parlours, but the word has come to have something of an archaic sound and has been superseded by such repellent usurpers as "lounge." It may survive here and there in rural districts, but it is no longer the only proper name for that room in which once dwelt the family Bible and the photograph albums and the anti-macassars. To those who have regretted its passing—and they must be many—it is pleasant to hear of its attempted restoration. The cottages, which the Government is going to build for land-workers, are to have not only "living-rooms," but "parlours" as well. It will be presumably in the nature of a "best parlour," to be used chiefly on state occasions. "Is it a party in a parlour?" asked Wordsworth, and went on to describe its denizens—

As you by their faces see,  
All silent and all damned!

Let us hope that this is altogether too gloomy a prognostication and that the parlour may be worthy of its meaning, a room for conversation.

# SELWORTHY IN SUMMER TIME: ON THE NEW NATIONAL TRUST PROPERTY

Sir Richard's land is presenting his Ellerton and Holnicote estates, over 17,000 acres of the largest property ever acquired, to the National Trust. The Holnicote estate, adjoining Dorey Beacon and the north of Porlock, includes the picturesque villages of Selworthy, Berford and Luccombe. Killerton, seven miles north of Exeter, is one agricultural land with a Georgian mansion and extensive gardens.



## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By  
**Major C. S. JARVIS**

ONE has to recognise the fact that in this lop-sided world there are various points of view with regard to everything and that some of us look at certain matters from one angle, whereas others regard them from the opposite point of the compass. It is not quite a case of "one man's meat," but we have to bear in mind that tastes differ and that eyes, ears, brains and palates are not all tuned in on the same key. Some people enjoy reading the new poetry whereas others throw the book on the fire after trying to get the rhythm of the first verse; some will rhapsodise over a picture in the Academy while others will say it is an outrage and quite out of drawing; and many enjoy hearing a crooner while a greater number will go frantic at the first gurgling hiccup from the performer.

An illustration of this inability of some to see any beauty in that which charms another happened one day when I was riding at sunset in a Libyan oasis with an Egyptian officer—a most capable, intelligent and efficient man. We came through a grove of palms to a high spot where one obtained a full view of the whole depression, and it was the most amazingly beautiful sight and striking blaze of colour I had ever seen. Above belts of dark green palms rose the high rocky scarp of the oasis, which was a lovely rose with every shadow picked out in cobalt and violet; behind there were rich purple mountains, and, beyond, the sky on the horizon was a delicate veridian green.

"Look at that!" I exclaimed, and the Egyptian looked up and saw nothing. Then he looked at his horse's head and bridle, his saddle and girths, and said finally: "What is wrong?"

HERE is a very improbable story about dogs, which I will not ask people to believe, but which I believe myself as I knew the two animals intimately and understood their characters. One of them was my very dear old friend, Wattie, a Scottie terrier—pure bred except for possibly one tiny indiscretion on the part of his great-grandmother—and the other was a "sort of fox-terrier," about which his owner says usually: "his mother was a pedigree bitch and his father belonged to an archdeacon."

Wattie was extremely clever and artful, but Spot, handicapped by his name, poor chap, was rather an ass; and the two dogs loathed each other. As Spot's owner was a very great

friend of mine Wattie realised that open warfare would not be tolerated, and therefore it was only occasionally that there were bared teeth and bristling hackles, and the rough and tumble which might have cleared the air never occurred.

One day Spot, Spot's owner, Wattie, I myself and several others (note the order of precedence) met at the flat of a friend who was a collector of rugs and carpets, and he showed us with pride a recent acquisition—a pair of Persian donkey saddle-bags turned into a giant hassock, and extremely beautiful they were. While we were admiring the saddle-bags Wattie and Spot walked round each other on their toes with hard looks in their eyes which spoke volumes.

Then our host began to serve out drinks, and at the moment when everyone's attention was devoted to the tray of bottles and glasses I saw old Wattie make a quick appreciation of the situation and walk very quietly over to the saddle-bags. Then with a meaning look at Spot he came back to my chair and sat down beneath it; as he expected, no one else had noticed his little act.

There is only one thing a dog can do when the gauntlet is flung down in this fashion, and Spot did it. Like the blundering ass he was he did not wait, as Wattie had done, until the party were otherwise occupied, but ran across the room straight to the saddle-bags. Next moment there were howls of rage, everyone, except myself, hit and kicked at Spot, and he was turned out of the room into the passage in disgrace.

I noticed a look of gloating triumph in Wattie's eyes as his enemy with tucked-in tail was slung through the door as a dog unfit to move in civilised circles, and I have no doubt in my mind that his act had been deliberate to achieve the result he anticipated. A trifle malicious perhaps, but after all everything is permissible in a total war.

AN unusual and quite laudable use of the electric wire is, I believe, now made on some of the eel fisheries in Ireland and Scotland. On most big rivers, where eels run in large numbers in the autumn, it is impossible to send

the full flow of water during floods through the hatch which leads to the eel rack, and it is of course during heavy water on moonless nights that the eel travels to the sea in great numbers. This means that a very large number of eels get a clean run through an open hatch or over a weir, and only a proportion take the outlet, which leads to the rack—and the fishmonger's slab. To prevent this, I am told, a charged wire is sunk in the river below the surface, barring all exits except that which leads to the hatch where the trap is set. As water is a most excellent conductor of electricity there is sufficient current from one wire running across the river to drive the fish away from the weir and other hatches.

EVEN the acute fish shortage we have experienced during the autumn and the winter has not overcome the natural aversion, which some nine-tenths of the country population have for the eel. I say country population advisedly, as my most vivid recollection of glove fights at the Ring in other days is vendors of jellied eels among the onlookers between contests, and it struck me always that a man who could eat a thing like a jellied eel with his fingers at a ringside seat must be particularly fond of them.

An old and disused eel weir in this part of the world was reconditioned and put into working order, more as a patriotic effort for the benefit of the local people than for the sake of any profit which might accrue; but it was a complete failure so far as local purchasers were concerned, for no one, except myself, would buy the eels. Ultimately a contract was made with a London firm, and now all the fish go straight into packing-cases bound for Billingsgate, and our local supply is cut off.

The British housewife is a most conservative creature, and, unless the fish displayed on the slab belongs to one of the six or seven recognised species, she will not look at it even if it means a meatless and fishless day. Our local shop obtained recently a large supply of John Dorys, and the John Dory, despite his facial resemblance to Mussolini, is a delicacy and ranks with a sole. Only two or three of the fish were sold, and the remainder went into the offal tub. The sad point about all this is that the initiated have to suffer for the costive conservatism of the rest, for never again will our fishmonger cast his pearls before swine.



# OASES OF TUNISIA

By LIEUT.-COLONEL H. E. VEREY, D.S.O.

THE Garden of Eden was no doubt an oasis, and the authorities appear to favour some site between the Tigris and Euphrates as its most likely position. No angel with a flaming sword was required to discourage our first parents from straying beyond its borders. All round it stretched the barren and waterless desert, and the misery of the struggle to survive in that inhospitable wilderness, compared with the rich fruitfulness which the waters of an oasis assure, must have been the measure of the punishment of Adam and Eve for their disobedience. One oasis is very like another, and those of Tozeur and Nefta, not far from where our troops are fighting in Tunisia, give the traveller a pretty good idea of what the Garden of Eden must have been like, for the system of cultivation now employed by the local Arabs cannot be much different from those of the most ancient days.

## THE OASIS OF TOZEUR

After we had visited the great amphitheatre at El Djem and left our motor at Sfax, a train carried us on from this old walled Arab town, one spring evening, some years ago, through Gafsa to Metlaoui, centre of the traffic from the rich phosphate mines nearby, where we changed into a goods train with one old red plush compartment attached, which deposited us in the early morning at Tozeur station. Half an hour's ride on donkeys brought us to the town and breakfast. Tozeur is built on the level of the desert plain adjoining the oasis, which is some hundreds of feet below. The Compagnie Générale Transatlantique had built a small hotel, to encourage tourists, of local bricks, copying the charming brick decoration for which the old Arab houses in that part of Tunisia are remarkable. The rooms were all on the ground floor round an interior courtyard planted with flowers and orange trees. Rabbits and ring-doves hopped in and out of our bedroom door and later in the day figured in the menu, and at least once, while I was shaving at the window, which looked out towards the town, a camel paused in its disdainful and deliberate progress to poke its head in with a sneer. Walks in the oasis were a never-ending delight, especially in the early morning or late evening. Runnels of water, diverted at fixed hours from one channel to another, irrigated the whole area, every yard of which was intensively cultivated with successive crops of vegetables, corn and clover, while an



## IN THE NEFTA OASIS

Alive with sound in contrast to the desert silence—trickling waters, cooing doves, rustling trees



## THE MARKET, NEFTA

The great square, dotted with large earthenware storage jars, as if Ali Baba and his forty thieves had left their belongings behind the

endless variety of fruit trees—apricots, oranges, loquats, mespilus, and even apples—combined to make it a very garden of the Lord.

High over all, like the pillars of some enormous cathedral, rose the smooth columns of the date palms. Their canopy of leaves, rustling in the breeze, tempered the violence of the sun for the fruit and crops below. Instead of the utter silence of the desert the oasis was alive with sound, the trickling of waters, the cooing of ring-doves and twittering of birds flying about among the trees, the laughter and singing of the Arabs and their women washing clothes in the streams.

#### JUSTICE AT NEFTA

The French Civil Governor very kindly invited us to ride with him to Nefta on one of his just dispensing visiting days. We started very early to avoid the heat, following a hard track between the desert sands, with the vast expanse of the salt marsh Shott el Djerid on the left over which a mirage of trees and waters flickered. The ride took about three hours. The Oasis of Nefta was much like the one at Tozeur, except that it boasted a big pool overhung with date palms and fruit trees, and a great market square dotted with large earthenware storage jars, as if Ali Baba and his forty thieves had left their belongings behind them.

We watched the Governor dispensing justice in a small courtroom crowded with litigants and their friends. The proceedings in Arabic seemed to take the form of a shouting match in which the Governor certainly held his own, and after a prolonged bout of this the Governor gave his decision which, from the general smiles, appeared to be witty as well as to the satisfaction of all concerned. While walking round the town I went into a house to change a film out of the sun and the Arab owner said something in protest to the Governor. "He asks," said the Governor to my wife, "whether your husband is after his wives, but you need not be concerned, Madame—they are all ugly to a degree."

Riding home in the late evening light with a spectacular sunset to admire, we asked our friend the Governor what tip would be appropriate for the man who all day, on foot, had led my wife's horse. "Tip," he replied, "nothing at all. He is a murderer and has thoroughly enjoyed his day out of prison. That's quite enough."

To visit Sbeitla we left Tozeur in the



#### OUTSIDE THE TOWN: TOZEUR

It lies adjoining the oasis some hundreds of feet below



#### SBEITLA: THE FORUM AND ARCH OF CONSTANTINE

One of the finest cities of the late Roman Empire in Africa



#### THE THREE TEMPLES, SBEITLA (THE ROMAN SUFETULA, DESTROYED A.D. 648)

Their other front overlooks from terraces of steps an enclosure surmounted by the remains of colonnades



TOZEUR AND THE OASIS. SHOWING TYPICAL CONFORMATION OF THE COUNTRY



NATIVE BRICKWORK, TOZEUR

A tradition of diaper in relief, of ancient Persian origin, recently adopted by the French for modern buildings



SFAX. IN THE ARAB TOWN

early morning and took the train via Metlaoui which gave us a day and night at Sbeitla and caught the early morning train to Tunis the following day.

#### A ROMAN CITY

Sbeitla, where the station and Arab town have been front page news during the last week or two, was known as Sufetula in Roman times, and is the site of one of the finest cities of the late Roman Empire in Africa.

It is situated where the great highway from Carthage intersected the main road from Theveste, now Tebessa. Here took place the first disastrous encounter between the Cross and the Crescent in North Africa, when the army of the Exarch Gregory was utterly defeated by Abdullah-ibn-Saad and so much booty was taken that it is recorded that every horseman got 3,000 dinars and every infantryman 1,000 dinars.

There are a magnificent triumphal arch of Constantine, A.D. 305, bearing his name



A KUBRA, TOZEUR

and that of Maximian, and three immense temples side by side, overlooking from terraces of steps an enclosure surrounded by the remains of colonnades. Though stripped by the Moslems of its finest marbles to decorate their mosques at nearby Kairouan, it is a striking monument to its Roman builders. Many "impluviums" of the Roman houses have been turned into Christian baptisteries which have fine mosaic floorings bearing Christian symbols fashioned out of the earlier Roman remains by a later Christian era. In contrast to the heat at Tozeur only a day or two before, an icy wind from the mountains of Algeria scarified us. Not all our coats and scarves could keep us warm, the puddles were frozen and the rooms in the horrid little inn (not one of the A.G.T.'s) were like an ice house. The patronne, who obviously wanted our custom for another night, very nearly failed to rouse us in the morning in time to catch the train, but, horrified by the prospect of another night in that inn, we had just time to bundle our things into suitcases and race across to the station to catch the Tunis train—breakfastless.



# FELL PONIES

## THE NATIONAL TRUST STUD ON GOWBARROW

By S. SUMMERHAYS

**L**EAST well known perhaps of all our breeds, the Fell pony possesses the virtues that have made our strains the very source and backbone of horse-breeding in this country, so that their influence has spread world-wide.

Apart from the Fell pony's conformation, consider the country of his foaling-days and the nature of his nursery. West of the Pennine range of fells, his home is the wild moorlands of Westmorland and Cumberland, where grouse and even the birds make their home. A living is made there by a pony even in fair weather, but in winter Helm wind shrieks its fury from the north-east through the valleys and over the snow-covered sides of the mountains. In such surroundings the ponies have to scratch for a living through the snow, yet they survive. They rank with the Highlands and Shetlands for hardiness.

Strong as little carthorses, these Fell ponies stand no more than 14 hands, the average size being perhaps 13.2. Great numbers of them used to work in droves of 20, carrying lead from mines; 16 stones of lead, slung pannier fashion, 240 miles a week—an astonishing performance. Yet they are good rides, well-balanced and very kindly and tractable. Short-backed, short-legged, with an ample girth, they have a good riding shoulder but rather lack pony character in the head, which perhaps is the only fault to be found in a typical Fell.

Demand in recent years, mostly from the dairies and small tradesmen of the north, for a pony of more size, unhappily induced many farmer-breeders to cross their good mares with Clydesdales and other heavy horses, to the dismay of those who would keep pure this precious pony blood. So serious had the position become that at the request of the National Pony Society, just a year ago, the secretary and I visited the Fell Stallion Show, at which were paraded for our benefit mares as well. As the result of this I reported that, though the type remained pure, the numbers available were ever decreasing, and this I verified by many enquiries from breeding farmers in the neighbourhood. The Fell pony was, as I could plainly see, being developed by cross-breeding into a coarse-bred, trotting vanner, useful enough, but retaining little, if any, of native pony blood.



FELL PONIES ON CARROCK COMMON BELOW CARROCK FELL

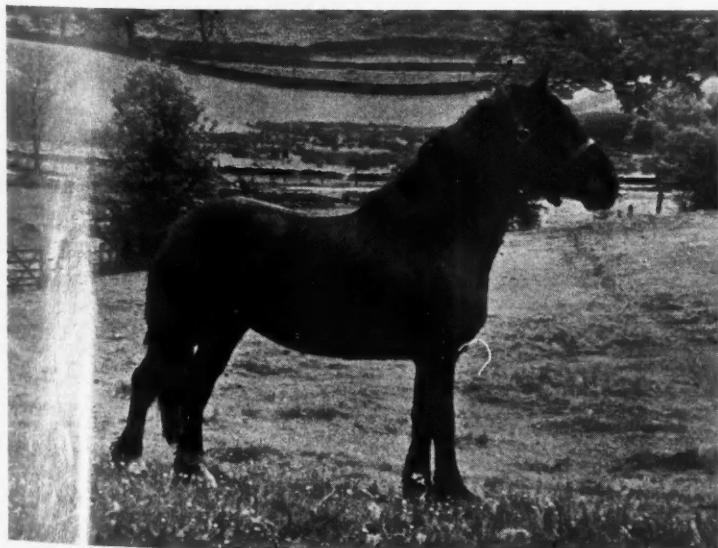
Yet how much has been done, in the short space of one difficult year, to save the pony in its pure state! The National Trust, with a promptness and foresight for which all pony lovers must be grateful, has allowed a number of Fell ponies to run in their deer park enclosure on Gowbarrow Fell, overlooking Ullswater Lake. The Fell pony's greatest champion, Mr. Roy B. Charlton, Past President of the National Pony Society and owner of the Linnell Stud of Fell Ponies, is handing over six in-foal mares to the Trust now and arranging for one of his stallions to join them for the season. In this way the National Trust are given the very best start to enable them to build a stud of the purest strain, for there is none better in the country. Mr. Charlton's generosity and enthusiasm has given, with the Trust, a new life to the Fell, and it will, I hope, be a long one.

The enclosure on Gowbarrow Fell is soundly fenced and extends to some 750 acres. The position is ideal and the ponies are entirely native to these surroundings. They thrive on exposure and these hardy fellows in their great winter coats can laugh at the wildest of storms. The mares will be "done" well, and provision has been made for supplementing food supplies in severe winter weather. In addition, should it appear desirable at any time, alternative accommodation will be made available by the Trust.

Those who have been interested in this breed and remember it in the days when great numbers were bred, will associate Gowbarrow Fell with the name of Swinburn, a family who were large breeders of Fells at Gowbarrow Hall Farm. The local committee of the National Trust is to have as its chairman Major Bush,

who resides beside Ullswater, and near the Park. Other members of the committee who are taking a keen interest in the project are Major Hassel, of Dalesmain, and Mrs. Anthony Lowther, of Askham Hall. They have the assistance, enthusiastically given, of Mr. Bruce Thompson, the local representative of the Trust. Mr. Charlton and Mr. George Relph, the Hon. Secretary of the Fell Pony Society, are making their advice and help always available to the Trust. Mrs. Anthony Lowther is Master of the Ullswater Foxhounds, and the name of Lowther must always be associated with the famous Fell ponies of Lowther.

I understand that all concerned are looking well ahead, making sure that satisfactory accommodation will be available at weaning time, and that when breaking and making time arrives it will be found that all has been arranged. Thus, in so short a time, entirely through the enthusiasm and generosity of a few public-spirited people, this really grand type of native pony, as good as any we have, has been lifted from a desperate position to one that holds high hope for the future. The real merit of this pony deserves it. His hardiness, strength, temperament, balance and economical way of living will repay those who have come to his help, and he is, too, of the real ride-and-drive type. There must be many pure bred mares about the country. Among their owners are there not some who will support the National Trust and emulate Mr. Charlton's generosity by giving or loaning to the Trust some mares to join the party of matrons on Gowbarrow Fell? Spring-time is breeding-time, and here is spring nearly with us.



A FELL PONY AT HOME  
Bred by Mr. Roy B. Charlton



HOGGED MANE AND WITH LEGS TRIMMED  
Miss Joan Hoddinott on a show champion, Linnell Pearl

# TRADITIONAL WELSH TURNERY

Written and Illustrated by M. WIGHT

**T**HE turning of wooden vessels on a lathe is certainly one of the ancient crafts that survive from prehistoric times. The type of lathe used in different parts of the world has varied greatly: in Europe the most primitive type was the pole lathe, which is the kind still in use in a few parts of the British Isles. It probably originated for work out in the woods, where two adjacent tree trunks, cut down to the required height, would support the bench, while a growing sapling could be harnessed to provide the motive power by its spring: this "pole" would be harnessed by a rope or strap to the lathe.

Such work still lingers in the Chilterns, where wood for certain purposes has to be turned while green. Before the last war any number of pole lathes could be found working there, mainly turning chair legs for the Wycombe factories. Now there are few left. One turner makes fine bowls on a common near Newbury, out of beechwood or elm. Kings Cliffe, in Northamptonshire, used to be called the Wooden Spoon Village, since almost the whole population was engaged in turning. To-day, there may still be one or two turners there, not more. But in some remote valleys of West Wales a very interesting group of turners is still working.

During the Middle Ages this work must have been of the highest importance, for most domestic utensils were made in this way. As late as 1522 the Drapers' Company used "ashen cups" at their Feast. The Wykehamist's trencher is a survival of the normal tableware of a few centuries ago. But in Wales, wooden bowls and spoons are still made for use in some districts and for serving the "cawl," or thick broth, of old Wales.

"Thirty years ago," said a miller on the

Teifi river, "it was wood everywhere"—for dishes, bowls and spoons. In the valley of its little tributary the Cych, as lately as the seventies of last century, there were no fewer than seven turners' workshops all making this kind of thing, all of the same name and probably all ultimately related to one another.

Now there are not more than four in all South Wales. One is near Llandilo and the others are in the Teifi and Cych valleys, on the borders of Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire. All of them have little workshops and probably the pole lathe was early adapted to indoor work. Except that the pole has now to be cut down and set up, fixed into a corner of the shop, the construction of the lathe has not altered much.

The work is very fatiguing, for the turner has to stand upon one leg while the other works the treadle, and both his hands are occupied upon the bench. He has a back-rest to steady and support him; and it is claimed that this must be fixed in such a way as to help to guide his hands in working his chisel with the grain of the wood. The to-and-fro motion set up by alternately depressing and releasing the treadle is thought to be more satisfactory, if slower, than the continuous revolving of a machine lathe, for the shavings are cleared away from the work by each retrograde motion.

Although so much harder, the work of a skilled turner using the pole lathe is almost as quick as that done on a modern lathe. Two Welsh turners tested this, working one against the other with a pole lathe and a machine lathe respectively, and by the end of the day, the modern machine was only a bowl or two ahead of the primitive lathe.

The woods of Glen Cych, the principal seat of this ancient industry, have always been famed for their sycamore, and this is the wood preferred for all domestic purposes. It is white and easy to work and to keep clean in use.

All these traditional crafts are hereditary and have probably been carried on in the same place for many generations. It has been found that a break of only one generation causes a great loss of skill that takes long years to recover. One family now maintains this craft in the Cych valley. One brother, after his workshop had been burnt down, launched out into a small factory run by water power, to do wood turning on a larger scale, employing a few men in addition to those of his own family. Here are several modern lathes and other machinery; and large quantities of farm implements are turned out as well as the old-fashioned domestic utensils. This man was reckoned the best hand with the pole lathe in Abercych, Pembrokeshire, but now he has none, and his brother, who has a small farm nearby, is the only man who has one in the district. It is usual in Wales for these small local industries to be combined with farming a small holding; in this way a much better living is made than by either alone.



THE TEIFI VALLEY WORKSHOP OF THE LATE WILLIAM REES, ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN OF WELSH TURNERS

It is a converted woollen mill using water power

Here the lathe is fixed in an old farm building turned workshop: a machine lathe is there also, and nowadays the pole lathe is mostly kept for show and for demonstrating the craft to interested callers. There is also a wheel lathe, an early stage in the evolution of the machine lathe: a boy is employed to turn the wheel from which the motive power is conveyed by a belt to the lathe. The wood is first roughly shaped with the axe before fixing on the lathe. For some purposes it needs seasoning. This is done by boiling it in the lump. If this has been done, bowls will last indefinitely and only need thorough scrubbing with cold water to keep them clean enough to eat from.

Their chisels and other tools are also made by the turners: they must be kept very sharp, and many different cutting edges are needed to shape the curves on bowls and spoons. Besides bowls and spoons, there are many dairy utensils turned here, such as cream skimmers,



A CARMARTHENSHIRE TURNER AT HIS POLE LATHE IN AN OLD STABLE



A WHEEL LATHE AT LLANC'CH





(Above, left) AGED 76, J. DAVIES, OF LLANCYCH, STILL WORKS AT HIS POLE LATHE. (Above, right) A WELSH SPOON-MAKER. Spoons are roughly shaped with the axe before turning or carving. (Right) POTATO-MASHER, BUTTER-PRINT, BUTTER-SCOOP, BOWL AND LADLES

turned almost as thin as paper, butter beaters, scoops and prints. On a larger scale there are great ladles for calf meal or buttermilk. All Welsh ladles have a hook at the tip of the handle by which they are hung up, when not in use, on shelves or miniature racks. This also has the advantage of keeping the ladle from slipping down into the pot or barrel in which it is being used.

In the old days little wooden boxes were turned for holding butter for the men to take out with their dinner in the fields. Tradition even dictates the shape of a spoon handle: for the neighbouring counties of Pembrokeshire, Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire which meet in this district, the right pattern must be made: no one will look at a spoon made for another county.

Then there are also made the more sophisticated things like egg cups, milking stools, and pastry markers, all of which are still asked for at the fairs and market stalls where most of this work is sold. But under war-time conditions the output of these craftsmen is much reduced: timber is hard to get, no fancy woods are available for making bowls for the shops where tourists used to visit and the men's time is more than fully occupied on the land.

Since war broke out, one of the best known Welsh turners has died, William Rees, of Henllan in the Teifi Valley. He was a master craftsman indeed, and was often to be seen demonstrating the work at agricultural and rural industries shows. At one time he was teaching apprentices, but the art takes very long to learn. One of his greatest adventures, for he spoke little English, was a visit to London for an exhibition; another was at the Royal Show at Derby, when King George V took a keen interest in his demonstration. A gift of his to the writer was a wooden cup copied from an illustration of an old chalice that he had noticed in some newspaper. Of late years Rees worked in a converted woollen mill using water power: his discarded pole lathe and a wheel lathe, with a fine set of traditional Welsh turned ware made by him, are in the Welsh National Museum at Cardiff, in the turner's shop. A feat of this was to turn some work using oak taken from a building centuries old and, of course, immensely hard.

The traditional forms of these Welsh-turned vessels have a distinctive beauty of line and finish, with perfect fitness for their purpose; and archaeologists have discerned an unmistakable resemblance in form between them and the remains of wooden vessels found in excavating prehistoric villages both in this country and on the Continent, especially in the Swiss lake villages. The conclusion is that this craft was brought to Britain with some wave of immigration perhaps three thousand years ago, and now lingers only in these remote western valleys. Small wonder that its tradition is handed down in Wales with immense family pride: along the Teifi Valley many of the people belong to one of the oldest racial types in the country.



MODERN WELSH TURNER'S WARE





1.—OVER THE LAKE IN WINTER. THE NORTH FRONT

From left to right: the "chapel," Murgatroyd building, "banqueting-hall," and Starkie wing

## EAST RIDDLESDEN HALL, YORKSHIRE

A PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST

*One of the best preserved of Yorkshire manor houses, dating from the seventeenth century and possibly built in part by the Halifax masons of the Bodleian Quadrangle at Oxford.*

**M**URGATROYD is the name chosen by W. S. Gilbert for the Bad Baronets in *Ruddigore*—

Painted emblems of a race  
All accurst in days of yore,

and the Murgatroyds of East Riddlesden were little better, though not baronets. "There was a rot among the gentry," the nonconformist divine Oliver Heywood was told in the next century by another minister. "Some in debt, some imprisoned, some rooted

out, some dead, posterity beggared." The Murgatroyd family, he added, "is the most dreadful instance in the country; all that know them tell strange tales. Oh what unthriftiness, wickedness, sloth and God's curses for the same. John 3, 33. Zech 5, 4."

This rot in Halifax gentry seems to have set in after the Civil Wars. The last three Murgatroyds of East Riddlesden perished miserably in York Castle some time during Charles II's reign. Thomas, whom his father

had disinherited but who nevertheless succeeded his four childless younger brothers at the Hall, was imprisoned, with his two uncles, for debt. He tried to escape and consequently was

double-ironed, that is to say fettered both legs together with very heavy irons for the space of six years, and so fettered all the time and never taken off, so that he could never put off his clothes till they had to be cut off and all that time lay in the dungeon or low jail amongst thieves and felons in danger of his life in unheard-of misery.

The father of this wretched brood, James, had been a rich clothier from Warley, near Halifax, reputed worth £2,000 a year (£20,000 by values to-day), who had bought East Riddlesden in 1638 of the Rishworths and built the main part of the house soon afterwards. He had been a litigious man himself, independent and self-made, no doubt, who could not see the sense of making a ridiculous little feudal payment for another tenement he had bought near Skipton. The payment was only of one hen yearly, but, unfortunately for him, it was due to the yet more obstinate Lady Anne Clifford. Precisely because she spent thousands of pounds on reconstructing her families' feudal castles—at Appleby, Barden, Skipton, Brough, and the rest—she was the less likely to remit a single customary fowl. Her steward relates the whole episode in his diary, from which it is evident that a valuable "vested interest" was at stake, besides the principle of the thing:

There had been anciently paid for 100 years continuance to the Castle of Skipton 100 hens yearly, and the like to the Castle of Appleby by the Tenants beside their rents. One Murgatroyd, a rich clothier of Halifax, having bought a tenement near Skipton, was to pay one hen, which demanded of him he absolutely refused. Her ladyship was resolved not to lose that hen, being her ancient right, and the loss of all the rest depending on that. Being forced to bring her action against him at York Assizes, she recovered her hen though it cost her £200 and Mr. Murgatroyd as much.



2.—THE NORTH PORCH AND MURGATROYD BUILDING

(Right) 3.—THE HALL  
THROUGH THE ENTRANCE  
GATES

And I believe Sir John Otway and Sir Thomas Stringer got in fees in that cause £40 each of the fee.

Having won her hen, the tradition is that Lady Anne had it cooked and served to the defendant. If so, this may have been not so much a courteous gesture as a punctilious observance of the letter of manorial custom. It was a "boon hen," and the steward's diary accurately points out, was a customary payment, dating at least from the thirteenth century. Originally the payments in kind were made by the lord of a manor by his tenants against the "boon feast" which he was customarily bound to give them all at the conclusion of their equally customary "boon work" in helping to get in his harvest. The payments long survived the work, and, when exacted, no doubt went to the lord's table. In this expensive case, however, Lady Anne may have deemed it as well to be on the safe side and have it served roasted. The custom, and the word "boon," still persist in the American "bee," where each participant in a communal task, be it raising a house or learning to spell, used to be expected to contribute towards the accompanying refreshment, or "beano" as the word has come down to us in this country.

East Riddlesden Hall is on the outskirts of Keighley, beside the River Aire. The manor is mentioned in Domesday and was held by Maudes and then Paslews before the Rishworths inherited it about 1590. It is uncertain how much of the present buildings is of earlier date than the purchase by James

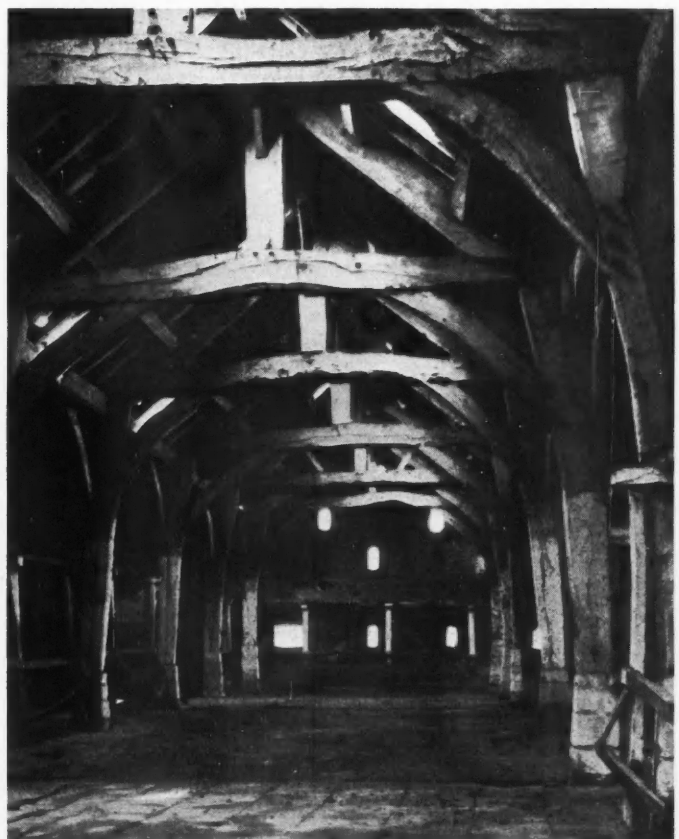
Murgatroyd on the eve of the Civil War. The pool beyond which the visitor sees the north side of the old rambling house (Fig. 3) is probably the *stagnum de Riddlesden* from which the Canons of Bolton Abbey got fish in 1320; and the great barn that stands beside it, at right angles to the house, is undoubtedly mediæval, to judge by the massiveness of its timbers (Fig. 5). The centre of the house, too, though apparently reconstructed in the sixteenth century and lacking its original roof, seems to represent the mediæval manor hall.

The buildings consist of three groups in a row. To the east of the central single-

storey "banqueting-hall" is a gabled block with thick mullioned windows of many lights, entered by a curious porch (Fig. 2). To the west of the hall is the front of a partly demolished wing called the Starkie building (Fig. 7) after the family who succeeded the Murgatroyds and built it in 1692. Jutting obliquely forward from the north front (Fig. 2) is a battlemented wing with four doorways, called the Chapel though there is no sign of its use as such, bearing the initials of James and John Murgatroyd and their wives, with the words "*Vive le Roy 1642.*" The wing has the appearance of being



4.—ROSE WINDOW AND SOUTH PORCH



5.—IN THE GREAT BARN BESIDE THE LAKE





6.—A CHARACTERISTIC WEST RIDING FRONT OF THE EARLY SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

The garden side of the Murgatroyd house, showing the continuous windows and the gothic rose window



7.—THE STARKIE WING, 1692



8.—FALCONS' MEWS IN THE GARDEN WALL

additional lodgings; a "barracks" for men-servants, perhaps added on the site of an earlier domestic chapel, which may account for its eccentric alignment.

The odd arrangement of the other three sections of the house—a Jacobean, and a William-and-Mary, block on either side of the "banqueting-hall"—is only accountable if the latter represents the original nucleus. The hall contains a great fireplace (Fig. 9), more rudely Renaissance in character than the east wing, and therefore (as we shall see) almost certainly older: probably Elizabethan. The hall windows, each of two double lights (one is seen on the left of Fig. 9), seem also of that date, their proportions perhaps due to their replacing mediæval trefoil-headed hall windows.

In the seventeenth century an entry with dwelling-rooms beyond was added to the east end of this hall (Fig. 2). The new block was of three gables, with similar porches to north and south, where the porch is repeated at the other end of the entry passage—probably on the line of the mediæval screens (Fig. 6). Mullioned windows of many lights stretch the whole width of each gable. But the most curious element in the design is the blending of the Renaissance porch entablature with Gothic tradition in the rose window above each entry and crocketed finials on the battlements.

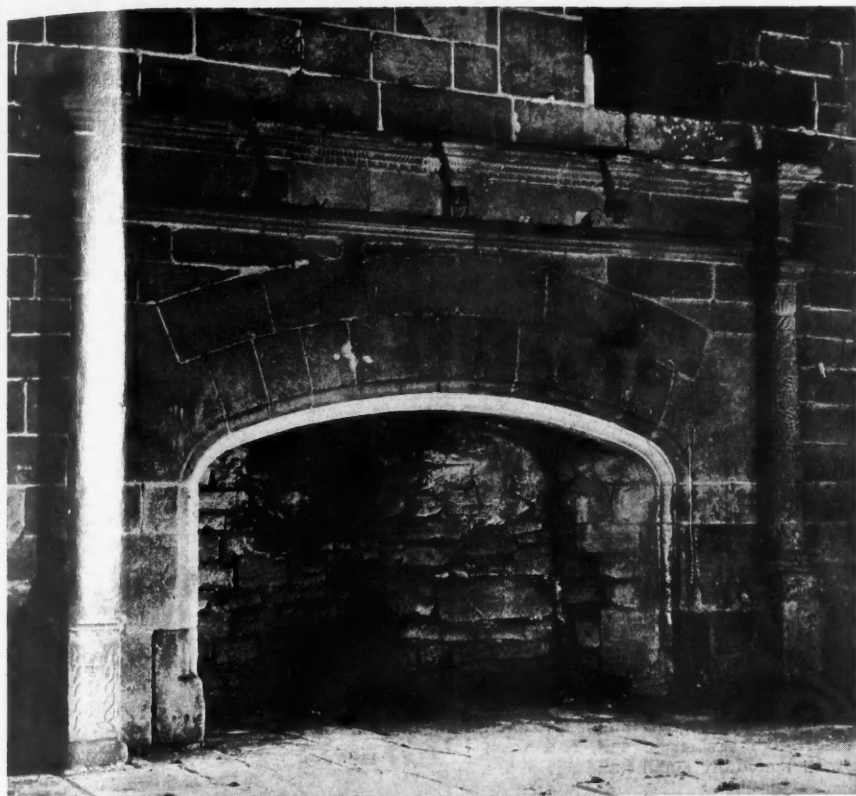
All these conservative features, and also the stepped windows in the heads of the gables, are characteristic of Halifax building tradition about 1600. Mr. Louis Ambler (*Old Halls and Manor Houses of Yorkshire*) points out that rose windows surmounting porch-doorways are peculiar to the West Riding. Other rose windows in the neighbourhood were at Heath Grammar School (1598), Bradley Hall (about 1590), Lumb Hall, Drighlington (1650), and Elland New Hall.

Now, Heath, Bradley, and Elland are associated by Mr. T. W. Hanson (*Halifax A.S. Trans.*, October 2, 1928) with the Halifax builder John Akroyd who, with Michael Bentley and Thomas Holt, were imported to Oxford by Sir Henry Savile (a Halifax man) to build the Schools Quadrangle, the Tower of the Five Orders, and Merton College Quadrangle about 1610. As the same mingling of classic and Gothic marks their Oxford work as this building, it would be tempting to suggest some connection in this case, were it not that the builders who went to Oxford were all dead by 1620, and Murgatroyd did not buy East Riddlesden till 1638.

It is possible that all this west block was built in the early years of the century—before Murgatroyd bought the property, either by him as tenant or by the eventual vendor, John Rishworth, and so may be an Akroyd building. Edmund Starkie did not acquire full possession of the property from the Murgatroyds till 1708, yet set the date 1692 on his west addition to the house (Fig. 7), so there would be some precedent for such anticipation. On the other hand, as this latest addition to the house shows, old forms lingered long in the Aire Valley. Here is a building contemporary with Hampton Court, still using stone mullions and gables, and looking half a century older than it is. So the Murgatroyd wing is probably to be dated about 1640, and its rose-windowed Gothic to be recognised as the West Riding tradition, of which John Akroyd was not the creator but an exponent.

This accounts for the conservative decoration of the rooms in the Murgatroyd wing. Out of the entrance passage opens the old kitchen, facing north, with the dining-room beyond, and the drawing-room, facing south (Fig. 12). Both have elaborate plaster





9.—FIREPLACE OF THE BANQUETING-HALL  
Tudor carving in the oldest part of the house



10.—PLASTERWORK OF THE DRAWING-ROOM CEILING

ceilings (Fig. 10). In that of the drawing-room, a lion rampant is freely introduced. It is found on other old Halifax ceilings and may refer to the Talbots, Earls of Shrewsbury. This repetition of the same mould certainly indicates a Halifax plasterer. The lintel of the drawing-room fireplace carries a mysterious inscription: the date 1648 and THEY MAIDES OF COJUNINA. The letters JUN are less well executed and may be an alteration. It has been suggested that the I and D of MAIDES are ligulate, and so read MAUDES, the name of the earliest recorded lords of Riddlesden. The panelling and fireplaces of one of the bedrooms were sold about 1912, but are *in situ* in others (Fig. 11).

The Starkies lived at Riddlesden for a century, the last to do so being Nicolas Starkie, whose notoriously sporting wife was known as Madam Starkie. When it was

reported to him that she had broken a joint when out hunting, he is remembered to have remarked gruffly "the wrong joint." After his death at the beginning of the nineteenth century, the place went to two daughters who had married a Mr. Bence and a Mr. Bacon, both of Suffolk, and was let to tenant farmers.

Several pub. signs in the neighbourhood have pictures of the "Airedale Heifer," bred at Riddlesden during this phase of the Hall's existence—which had the effect of leaving the seventeenth-century house untouched. Too untouched, for the Starkie wing became derelict and was pulled down but for its front. Most of the land was gradually sold, and in 1912 the panelling, plasterwork, and some of the stonework had been sold for removal, when they were reprieved by private generosity. Again in 1933 the Hall was in danger of demolition.

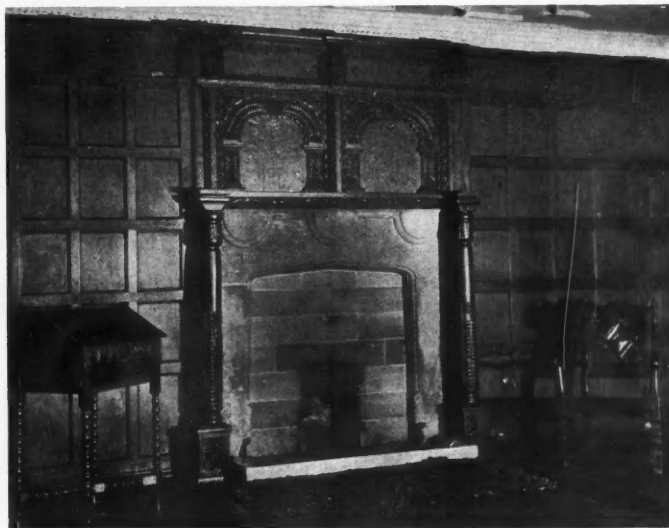
Messrs. J. J. and W. A. Brigg, who had previously bought back the panelling, intervened, bought the property, and presented it to the National Trust.

The Hall is an historic and much-appreciated resort in the district, but an instance of the problem posed by such uninhabited and not well endowed properties. The garden might be made lovely if the town or some organisation would devote a little money to taking the grounds in hand as a local asset. The walled garden to the south of the Starkie wing has one of the best instances of those puzzling niches sometimes found in seventeenth-century walls (Fig. 8). They have been described as peacock-houses—obviously impracticably. The niches occur on its north side, facing away from the garden. The usually accepted explanation is that they are falcons' mews.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.



11.—A PANELLED BEDROOM



12.—THE DRAWING-ROOM FIREPLACE, 1648

# BIRDS' AND BEASTS' TOILET

By FRANCES PITT

AS children we were told that cleanliness is next to godliness, but the majority of birds and beasts act as if cleanliness is next to life itself. Any mouse can give a perfect demonstration of the art, said to be unknown to many boys and girls, of washing behind the ears.

Take as an example the toilet of the long-tailed mouse of our woods and hedgebanks, known sometimes as the wood-mouse and scientifically titled *Apodemus sylvaticus*. This little animal, with its slender form, sleek coat, long tail, large ears and big black eyes, which glisten like the tops of black-headed pins, is a most fastidious and dainty creature. It is continually washing its face, its body and even the extreme tip of its lengthy tail. Annoyance or excitement is followed by beauty treatment.

The mouse sits up on its hind legs, licks its fore paws, those delicate hand-like organs, and rubs them over its nose, bringing them forwards and downwards, to lick them again and repeat the performance, but this time passing them behind the ears, to bring them forwards and downwards once more. So it goes on, washing its head, neck and face, with great thoroughness and missing no nook or corner. The body is next dealt with, the beautiful white underneath being licked diligently, and even the middle of the back receiving attention, though the latter is difficult and the mouse has to twist itself about to reach the lower part of the spine. Last but not least comes the tail. It is held in the hands and licked with special care from the base to the extreme tip.

## RAT'S CAREFUL BATH

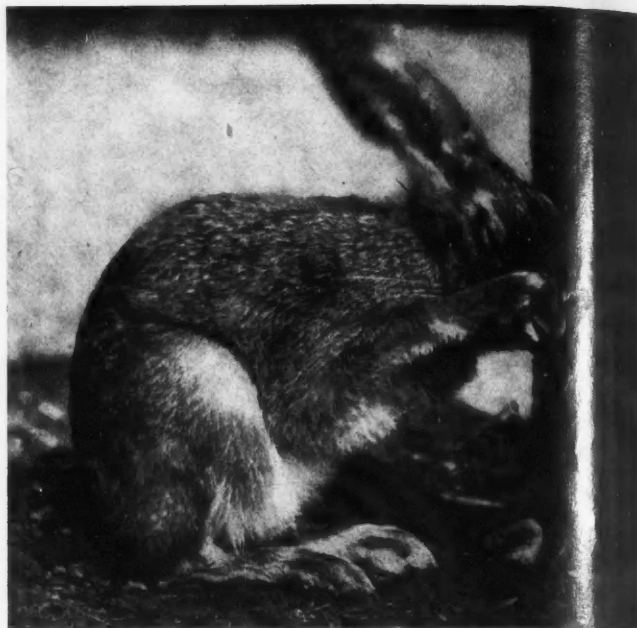
With regard to the care that long-tailed mice bestow upon their tails, many years ago I had a very tame rat. He was of the common barn-yard kind, a typical specimen of *Rattus norvegicus*, the brown rat, but he had an uncommon history, having been adopted by the cat and brought up by puss with her kitten. Whether his unusual upbringing affected his character and personality I cannot say; the rat as a species is not in my opinion a lovable beast. But Samuel Whiskers was a delightful fellow; he was popular with all of us and we were much attached to him. He was a house pet, a gentleman of attractive ways and perfect manners. About the care of his person he was most particular. He washed his face, his body, his legs and paws frequently and with utmost care, but I never saw him touch his tail!

I have kept rats of many kinds, fancy rats, specimens of the so-called black rat, otherwise known as the Old English rat, and so on. But I have never seen any individuals of *R. norvegicus* descent (fancy rats whether white or of

other hue are related to the common rat) wash their tails. Maybe this has been just an accident, perhaps barn-yard rats do clean their tails as often and as thoroughly as long-tailed mice; but I have not seen them do so.

Returning to the cleanly habits of mice, the toilet of that wee, sandy-hued sprite the harvest mouse is something to watch with amazement. The tiny animal, which vies with the lesser shrew for the honour of being one of the smallest of living mammals, is little more than a pencil-thickness of dancing life, and to see it sit aloft on a swaying grass stem, anchored by its tendril-like prehensile tail, and wash its face with incredibly small hands, is a joy.

Hares and rabbits also wash their faces in a similar cat-like manner, licking their paws and rubbing them over ears and head. It is amusing to see a hare passing its paws behind



A BROWN HARE IN THE ACT OF WASHING ITS FACE

its long ears and pulling them forwards and downwards over its nose.

However wet the weather, however muddy the fields, it is rare to see a happy, undisturbed hare or rabbit with dirty feet. They pick their way across the damp turf, flicking the moisture from their feet and halt at frequent intervals to lick their furry toes and keep them clean.

It is also amazing how spotless a fox contrives to keep its black pads and its golden coat, but it has much of the cat in its disposition and, like puss, takes great care where it steps. The badger, on the contrary, has no fear of the damp and will face mud without a qualm, but it has a coarse, wiry jacket that is peculiarly resistant to wet and dirt.

## BEAUTY TREATMENT

It was not, however, the way animals get dirty or avoid getting dirty that we were considering, but the manner in which they clean themselves and beautify their persons. A lovely furry coat takes a good deal of care—for instance, the thick winter brush of the red squirrel. That exquisite plume-like tail that we see turned over its head and shoulders needs a lot of licking and combing. James, my pet squirrel, who lives in my workroom, sets about it in a thoroughly business-like manner, holding his tail firmly in his queer long-fingered red hands and licking away most strenuously. The process is one of combing rather than licking.

Yet whatever the care and labour needed to keep a fur coat in good order, it is nothing to that required to keep feathers in perfect



## THE BITTERN'S TOILET

She buries her head beneath her shoulders and rubs her head up and down her "powder-puffs"



Repeated application of the puffs results in her head becoming whiter and more dishevelled



An elaborate oiling of her head and neck follows. The oil gland exposed



A final shake-out before leaving the nest (Four photographs by Lord William Percy)





A LONG-TAILED MOUSE CLEANING ITS TAIL: ITS MATE SITS ALONGSIDE. (Right) A BROWN RAT THAT HAS JUST WASHED ITS HEAD LICKING ITS PAW BEFORE REPEATING THE PROCESS

condition. The preening of a bird is a lengthy ritual, often preceded by a bath in water, sand, or snow.

The sand-bathing or dusting of such birds as the domestic fowl, the pheasant and partridge, the peafowl, etc., is well known, but it is not so well known that some species will "wash" in the snow. By "wash" I mean that they will grovel in soft new-fallen snow, beating with their wings and going through all the actions employed when tubbing in the ordinary way. I have seen ravens do this for five minutes or more, making the snow fly and thoroughly enjoying themselves.

The actions of a bird washing itself are, of course, a matter of inherited ritual, of what we commonly term instinct, and in the first instance undoubtedly a matter of unthinking response to an appropriate stimulus, though later intelligence certainly steps in and helps to govern the bird's behaviour.

To illustrate what I mean, take the case of a young song-thrush that had been reared by hand and had never seen water. I put a pan before him, but he stared at its contents without interest or comprehension. I tried to draw his attention to the water, but it had no meaning for him. Then I rippled the water, making it splash, and in an instant the bird was on the alert. He stared down into the pan, lowered his head and touched the water with his beak. He shook his head, shook out his feathers, stepped into the basin, bent forward, lapped out his tail, beat the water with his spread wings and washed himself as thoroughly as any experienced adult bird. Ever afterwards he knew water when he saw it, and even showed signs of eager anticipation at the sight of the jug from which his bath was replenished.

With regard to the way birds bring experience to bear on what, to begin with, was but unthinking reaction, hawks are particularly cleanly birds and enjoy bathing. Hence to a trained hawk there is no greater treat than a pan of fresh water.

Now at one time I had a jack martin ("jack" was the term used by the falconers of days gone by to denote a male of this species) that I had endeavoured to train. Although quite useless from a hawking standpoint, for he was much too idle to exert himself to chase anything, he became a delightful pet. He kept on a perch in the house, but in the morning I chrew him from

the window to go his own way during the day. He seldom went far, and if I went out with the garden watering-can he was after me in an instant, flying around, chattering excitedly and then dashing ahead to where his bathing-pan stood on the lawn, to alight on its side and wait for me to fill it. If that little hawk did not show intelligent anticipation of coming events I can only say his behaviour was most deceptive.

#### USE OF OIL GLAND

In considering the toilet of birds, we must remember that their existence depends on keeping their feathers properly groomed and that dirt may prove fatal to them—witness the miserable end of oiled sea-birds. Their elaborate plumage needs constant attention, and the majority of birds are endowed with an oil gland to facilitate keeping it in perfect condition. This oil gland is the small wart-like lump that may be found at the base of the tail where it joins the back. When the bird is preening itself it frequently massages the gland, rubbing it with head and beak and thus distributing the exuding oil, so invaluable in keeping the feathers soft, supple and waterproof.

Other special adaptations for toilet purposes are such things as powder-down patches, in which powder is produced for the good of the plumage, and fine combs for grooming purposes. Good examples of these adaptations are found on the familiar grey heron and on that peculiar bird the bittern of the fens. Both

birds have powder-down patches and serrated toes—both also having a liking for slimy prey, such as fish and, in particular, eels.

An eel is ever a difficult creature to handle, squirming and wriggling persistently. Once, on a Welsh bog, I watched a heron trying to give its quietus to an eel, and it took what seemed to me simply ages to finish off the squirming fish. In fact the heron was about three-quarters of an hour before it had quieted the eel sufficiently to swallow it, after which the bird stood very soberly for some minutes, as if the eel was still kicking inside, before flying off, no doubt to find a sheltered spot where it could preen its much dishevelled person and meditate upon eels.

The cleaning up after a struggle with an eel is no short business for either a heron or a bittern, involving as it does the removal of slime with powder from the breast patches and the oiling of the plumage. The process was studied and photographed in great detail by Lord William Percy, who showed the use of powder and oil, as may be read in the issue of this paper for June 18, 1932.

Space unfortunately does not permit of quotation, and all we can say is that the preening and grooming are an elaborate affair. Bird toilets vary in degree, some being of great length and others quite simple. The same is the case with mammals. The horse that rolls on the turf and the cow that licks her side do not appear to us to be doing much to beautify their persons; nevertheless they are doing what they can—a good roll helps to keep muscles and hide supple, and tongue treatment keeps the coat in order. Moreover both these animals are believers in mutual aid. It is not uncommon to see two cows licking each other, and a yet more frequent sight is that of two horses standing side by side and biting each other's withers.

In conclusion, reference must be made to what is perhaps the most delightful aspect of animal life, the care bestowed by the mother on her little ones—witness a cat washing her kittens. Curiously enough in the bird world the young have to preen themselves. I cannot recall ever seeing any bird attempt to groom its nestling. However, mammals make up for this, and most of them tend their offspring with a meticulous zeal that puts to shame the energy of the old lady of the famous soap advertisement.



A JACKDAW PREENING ITS FEATHERS



# TOMATOES OUT OF DOORS

**I**F there is one crop more than any other which has figured prominently in the nation's food-production effort of the past three years, it is surely the tomato. It has taken the stern necessities of war to bring home to us that the cultivation of tomatoes in the open in many parts of the country can be a profitable venture, provided proper attention is given to their culture.

The results achieved during the last two years have afforded ample proof that good crops can be obtained in all the more favourable parts of the south and west, and that even in the more northerly districts of England and Wales and also in Scotland the yield of fruit from outdoor plants is by no means negligible from the standpoint of the private gardener. This experiment in outdoor tomato-growing on such a vast scale under widely different conditions has naturally contributed much to our knowledge of the treatment and methods required for the success of the crop, and the lessons that have been learned as a result of the national trials conducted in many areas in 1941 and 1942 under the direction of the Cheshunt Horticultural Station in conjunction with the horticultural officers of some 40 counties, and at various other research institutions, can be turned to good account by all private gardeners desirous of taking up outdoor tomato culture.

A few more venturesome gardeners, it is true, have always tried a few plants outside to supplement their indoor crop, but it has been a hit-or-miss affair, and not until now have we obtained some reliable information and knowledge which if translated into practice will eliminate all risk of failure.

As high a yield as 7 lb. of fruit per plant has been obtained in the open in the south of England during the last two years, an equivalent of 48 tons per acre. Generally speaking, a yield of from 17 to 35 tons of ripe fruit per acre can be taken as the average for plants grown on a commercial scale and it is reasonable to suppose that the private gardener growing

fewer plants and with probably better conditions at his disposal, can exceed a yield of 4 lb. to 4½ lb. of ripe fruit per plant, which is surely a generous enough return to make the crop worth while.

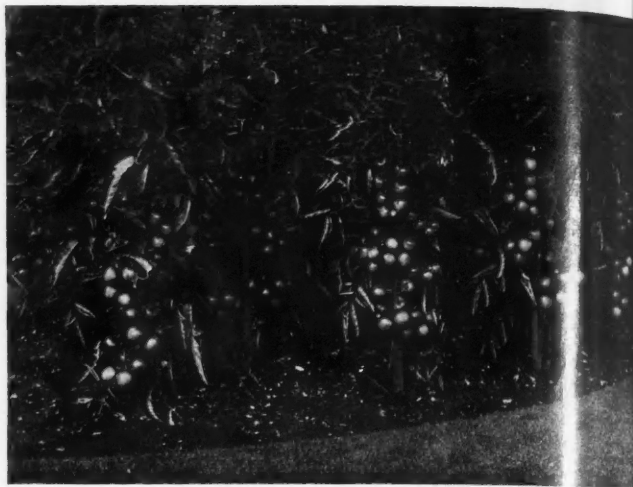
Incidentally, it is generally recognised nowadays that in food value based on its content of Vitamin C, the outdoor fruit is better than that grown under glass. In these days it is to be regarded as one of the indispensable crops, and all gardeners who can should make a point of growing two or three dozen plants outdoors, not only for the sake of enjoying delicious home-grown tomatoes in the late summer and early autumn, but also of bottling the fruits for use during the winter and spring.

Thorough cultivation, selection of a suitable site, adequate control of diseases, especially the blight disease common to potatoes, and choice of a suitable variety are the essentials to the production of a good crop of fruit. A sheltered and sunny situation is the first requirement, and in the garden a south or south-west border against a wall or fence is ideal. When the plants must be placed right out in the open, choose a sunny situation well sheltered from the prevailing wind, for cold winds and low temperatures are the chief causes of arresting growth after planting out and so shortening the period of cropping.

As regards soil, tomatoes ask for nothing more than good well-nourished ground that has been adequately manured for a previous crop and is in a naturally rich condition. On such a soil no further manuring is necessary and the only treatment required is to dig it over to a depth of about 18 ins.

If the ground is on the poor side, however, the application of nourishment in the form of a good tomato fertiliser at the rate of 4 to 6 oz. to the square yard is necessary. Scatter the fertiliser over the soil and fork it in to the depth of from 6 to 8 ins. As an alternative to a general tomato fertiliser, hoof and horn and superphosphate if available should be applied at the rate of about 4 oz. to the square yard and potash in the form of muriate, which is now the only form available, at 2 oz. to the square yard.

Without a potash dressing of some kind, the best results are hardly likely to be obtained, for the tomato is very fond of potash. As it is now extremely scarce, the gardener must do what he can to make up for the shortage, and the best substitute is ash from the garden bonfire. Rich in potash, wood ash is an excellent dressing for the tomato plot. It should be scattered evenly over the ground at about 2 to 3 oz. per square yard, and forked in. In ordinary cultivated ground, dressings of farmyard manure are unnecessary and indeed undesirable, as they are apt to encourage luxuriant leaf and stem growth at the expense of fruit. The whole aim of the grower should be to produce sturdy well-balanced plants, and only in light sandy soil should a manurial dressing prove necessary. In poor ground or on land which is being



**A GOOD CROP OF TOMATOES APPROACHING MATURITY**

The plants are grown on a lawn bed formerly devoted to flowers. Note the stout stakes to each plant. The lower leaves have been removed to assist the ripening of the fruit

freshly broken up, manure may be required and in this case the best material to use is a well-decayed leafy compost from the garden heap or old mushroom-bed manure. This material should be dug about a spade deep.

For outdoor cropping, the procedure is to sow seed in boxes in a standard compost, the John Innes being the one most generally used by most good growers, about the first week in April. Place these in a greenhouse where a temperature of about 70° Fahr. can be maintained; germination will then take place in a week or two. About the third week or so, the seedlings will be ready for planting out into other boxes, about 30 plants to a box, where they can remain until ready for planting out, or better still potted off into 3-in. pots, early in May. By about the end of May or early June, depending on the weather and the district, the plants will be ready for going out into their final quarters. At this stage, the plants should be about 9 ins. high, sturdy in growth and showing their first truss of flowers.

Before putting out the plants, it is a good plan to insert the supports. Proper staking is essential, and the best system when the plants are grown in rows is to strain wires horizontally between strong stakes at each end of the row. One wire should be about a foot from the other, and the other 3 ft. or so higher. If the rows are long, intermediate stakes every 9 ft. or so will be necessary to make a strong job. Strings can then be run vertically from the wires to train each plant which is tied to the string by raffia. As an alternative to this system, canes can be placed to each plant and fixed to the horizontal wire. Whatever method is adopted, it is important to see that the support is adequate for the plants. Set the plants out about 18 ins. apart in the rows, allowing 2 ft. 6 ins. between the rows.

As growth proceeds, tie in the leading shoot to the support. Nip out all the side shoots which appear in the axils of the leaves and stop the main shoot about two leaves above the fifth truss of fruit. Some growers stop the main shoot above the fourth truss to encourage the development and ripening of the lower trusses, but on the whole it seems advisable to let the plant run to five trusses. The last two trusses will probably not ripen off completely, but the fruits can be picked green and either ripened indoors or used for making chutney. No feeding should be necessary during growth, but if the plants look weakly a stimulant in the form of a balanced fertiliser, sulphate of ammonia, superphosphate and muriate of potash in the proportion of one, two, one, applied in showery weather at the rate of 3 oz. to the square yard, will prove beneficial.

If the weather is dry, watering may be necessary, but once begun it must be continued if the weather remains dry. A good soaking is always advisable and a mulch of decayed compost littery material will help to conserve surface moisture.



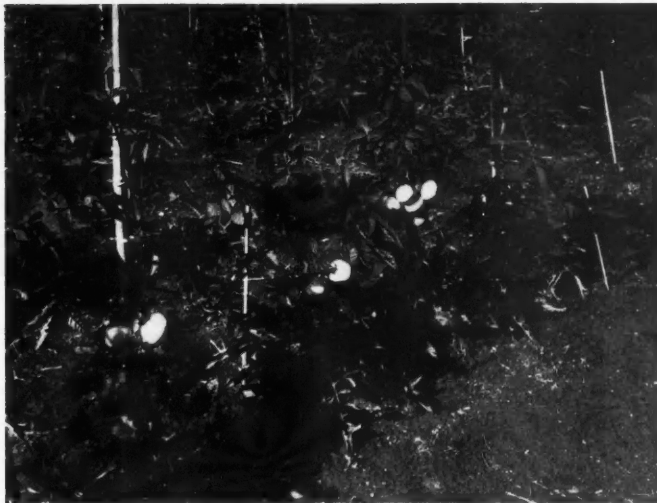
**A CROP RAISED UNDER GLASS AND PLANTED OUTSIDE IN EARLY MAY UNDER TALL BARN CLOCHES**

By means of cloches, fruits can be obtained two or three weeks earlier

Many growers favour removing the lower leaves about the end of August. This does seem to assist ripening without being detrimental to the vigour of the plant and the development of the upper fruits. Only one other matter calls for attention and that is the control of diseases. The only serious trouble afflicting outdoor tomatoes apart from the splitting of the fruits, which is a purely physiological disorder due to a dry soil, is the blight disease which affects potatoes. To guard against the disease, which is generally prevalent in a wet summer, the plants should be sprayed with Bordeaux

#### OUTDOOR PLANTS WITH THE FIRST TRUSS OF FRUIT IN MID-JULY

Note the spacing between the plants and also between the rows



mixture or with one of the proper copper compounds available for the purpose. The spraying should be carried out in late July or early August, and the precaution taken of keeping the tomatoes as far as possible from the potatoes.

There is an ample choice of varieties available and the gardener can take his pick of those offered in most seedsmen's lists. Experience shows that the best varieties for indoor cultivation are not always the best for outside, and some varieties appear to do better in certain districts than others. Generally speaking, E. S. has given a good account of itself in many places, and other kinds that have proved good in trial are Market King, Harbinger, Stonor's Exhibition, Radio, Earliest of All, Early Market, Plumpton King and Ailsa Craig. G. C. TAYLOR.

## The CADDIE'S ADVICE — A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

A CORRESPONDENT of my acquaintance (we once played in a pleasant match together) wrote to me the other day on a question which he apparently has much at heart. He disapproves of the golfer being allowed to take advice from his caddie and asked my views. They were diametrically opposed to his and he did not make me change them, nor did I prevail over him with my reply, though he was kind enough to say "Almost thou persuadest me—but not quite." The subject, though no new one, is not, I hope, uninteresting and perhaps I may be allowed to summarise his remarks and also my answers, which are of a true-blue Tory description.

One of my correspondent's arguments left me entirely cold. He is a distinguished game-player in other fields than golfing ones and says that in no other game is such advice allowed. To this I sturdily, and perhaps even offensively, reply that I don't care; that golf can stand on its own legs and by its own rules; further, that there can be no real comparison in this respect, since there is no other game in which the player has the services of a squire or man-at-arms. The football player, to be sure, gets plenty of unasked advice from the touch-line. At cricket it used, in the old days, to be said that both the Eton and Harrow elevens, and doubtless those of other schools, were captained from the pavilion. There is even a story that a young captain, misunderstanding his instructions, wonderingly put on a certain bowler who was no bowler at all and instantly got the needed wicket. The custom has now ceased, and the analogy is, in any case, imperfect.

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I know much less than I should like to know about baseball, but I gather from reading that at that game orders are sometimes given from the pavilion, if partly under the rose. Perhaps I have misunderstood, but here at any rate is a passage from an account of a world-series match between the Yankees with Babe Ruth in their ranks and the Giants of whom the famous John McGraw, then no longer a player, was the power behind the throne. "Snyder"—thus it runs—"peeked at the bench to get a signal from McGraw. Catching for the Giants must be a terrific strain, for apparently it is etiquette to take the signals from the bench manager furtively. The catcher is supposed to pretend he is merely glancing around to see if the girl in the red hat is anywhere in the grandstand, although all the time his eyes are intent on McGraw." Later on Snyder is represented as getting a recondit signal, when the Babe is batting, which signifies "Try the Big Bozo on a slow curve around his knees and don't forget to throw to first if you happen to drop the third strike."

This is, I am afraid, rather irrelevant, but the mysterious and fascinating language was irresistible. In any case, golf is not as other

games and so let us turn to my friend's other arguments, which, he modestly says, I have probably heard before. He points out that a good caddie who knows a course well can be of real help to his employer, and he gives the best possible example of the Old Course at St. Andrews. "Why should this be?" he asks, and I reply in effect "Why shouldn't it?" I oppose to his assault a solid wall of conservatism. Doubtless it is a piece of good luck for one party to get a particularly good caddie; but such luck has always been an inherent feature of the game; it is part of its ancient traditions and I, for one, would not have them changed. When I see, as I sometimes do, a player depending wholly on his caddie and taking almost blindfold the line which he is ordered on the putting green I have a feeling of disapproval. That is not because I think it unfair that he should get such help, but because there seems something paltry about it. As Horace Hutchinson once wrote: "It is pitiable to see the extent to which masters, many of whom really know better than the caddie, subordinate their volition to the latter's dictation. They do not seem to credit themselves with the intelligence of a tame rabbit." How much advice the player likes to take from his caddie is, however, a matter for him, and if he likes to turn himself into a subservient machine, that appears to me no reason for a change of venerable law and custom.

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My correspondent advances another argument on this point, with which sympathy would unquestionably be due, were it founded on fact; but I venture to think that it is not. He imagines one who is not, as Dandie Dinmont would say, "Weel to pass" in the world, in particular an artisan golfer, playing in an important tournament and unable to afford a good caddie. That certainly would be a hard case and nobody would want him to be at a disadvantage from such a cause; but in my experience of championships, now a very long one, I do not think the artisan golfer suffers. In very many cases he has a trusty friend to carry for him, and that friend not only gives his services for love but is himself a good golfer capable of tendering sound advice. This cannot always be so, but that it is very often so I feel tolerably sure.

I hope I have not misreported my friend (of course I have mislaid his letter in the wilderness of paper in my room): at any rate I have tried to do him justice; and now I want to advance an argument of my own, on which he did not specifically touch. Would it not be a thousand pities from a human point of view if the old alliance between golfer and caddie were destroyed? It would surely be a great loss if the "we" with which any caddie worth his salt describes his "side's" fortunes in the match became an unmeaning expression. That is what it would come to if he were not allowed to advise his employer as to the line or the club. He would

become a mere porter and not even that, for a porter can do us invaluable kindnesses; he would become no more than a portmanteau. The relationship between player and caddie can be a real addition to the pleasantness of the game, especially in those cases where it is the growth of years. Let me quote Horace again: "Some caddies, who for years have carried for the same master, seem to have taken the features of his game as factors in their own lives. They even tend to grow like their masters in face and carriage, and, without any regard to relative dimensions, are usually equipped in their master's cast-off clothes."

Those words were written a good long time ago, when golf had not spread to the ends of the earth and its world was a small and intimate one. Golfers are now by comparison birds of passage on any one course: but many of those old and faithful unions do still exist, reflecting equal credit on both parties, and would not the game, whether on the side of employer or employed, be poorer without them? It is perhaps unfair to argue only from famous examples and to imagine Willie Park with Fiery a mere carrier or Ben Sayers with a mute Big Crawford. There are many alliances in much humbler golfing life that would be robbed of their engaging quality if the iconoclast had his way. As I said before, the exact degree in which a player likes to take counsel with his caddie is a matter of individual taste and temperament. For my own part—and I do not deem it a merit but rather a fault, as showing impatience of advice in general—I prefer to play my own game. I dislike a caddie too full of admonition. Yet there is something heartening in the feeling that the trusty ally is there, taking an interest in our fortunes and ready to help if he is wanted. He may slouch silently along, hardly speaking unless he is spoken to, but we are always conscious of his presence; we know his advice will be worth having if we ask for it; his joy makes victory more enjoyable and his sympathy can mitigate the pangs of defeat.

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The future of both golfers and their caddies is dim and uncertain. It may be that in the brave new world which we are promised there will be so much well-paid work to go round that no man will think it worth his while to carry our clubs. It may also be that we shall not have enough money to pay him even if he is willing. If the worst comes to the worst some of us have grown accustomed in our rare games to carrying our half-dozen clubs ourselves and have found it far from unendurable. But as long as there are caddies I do most sincerely hope that the old relationship will be unchanged and, as I told my correspondent, I think he will have his work cut out to persuade the powers that be to pass his rule for him. And with that rather truculent observation I bid him an entirely friendly farewell.



# CORRESPONDENCE



A MEMORIAL TO A FRIEND

See letter "Haldon Belvedere"

## BADGERS AND MANGE

From Lord Charles Bentinck

SIR,—I am sorry to disagree with Lord Ailesbury's letter in your issue for February 12; but in my experience badgers are very bad spreaders of mange among foxes. When hunting the Croome country I killed several very mangy badgers on Bredon Hill. Lord Coventry (ninth Earl) told me that until he cleared all the country round Croome Court of badgers he was never free of mange among the foxes.

Badgers often spoil a promising hunt by opening the earths after they have been stopped and many an innocent fox has been blamed for raids on hen-roosts committed by badgers.

My advice to all masters of foxhounds is to clear their country of badgers. They cannot possibly do them any good and may do them a lot of harm.—CHARLES BENTINCK, Oxtou Hall, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

SIR,—I have been interested in letters in COUNTRY LIFE about badgers. I hope the pest officers do not try to exterminate them—if they stuck to rats they would do far more good.

For 15 years I was deputy master of the Downham Foxhounds. During that time I ran the Poultry Fund and investigated most of the poultry claims. I had no trouble from badgers. Foxes killed a number of poultry; stray dogs—not shut up at night—also did much damage, and the fox always got the blame.

Foxes are great rat-killers. I remember one day, walking past some very old oak trees in a grass field, I saw something near one, so I walked across to investigate. I found 11 dead rats lying round the tree, and I then saw fox cubs inside the tree, the tree

being hollow with a hole into it.—CHARLES W. J. HOWARD, Commander, R.N., Delnabo, Tomintoul, Ballindalloch, Banffshire, N.B.

[An opinion from a sportsman who, like Lord Charles Bentinck, has a lifetime's experience of fox-hunting behind him, is ever valuable. We must, however, point out that his experience of badgers as mange distributors is the reverse of that of most masters of hounds. Despite finding the badger a nuisance with regard to scratching open stopped earths, they generally agree that it is a most cleanly beast, and by clearing out earths does much to prevent mange among foxes. Although few, if any, furred beasts can claim immunity from mange, we believe a mangy badger to be exceedingly rare.—ED.]

## CHURCH, INN AND FARM-HOUSE

From Earl Stanhope.

SIR,—I am afraid that the letter in your issue of February 19 on Dale Abbey church is incorrect in several particulars, and this little church has a much more interesting history than that given by your correspondent.

Only 26 ft. east and west by 25 ft. north and south, a small part of the church is ascribed to the year 1150. A great deal of the remainder must be little more than a century later, for Dr. E. W. Tristram, who treated the wall-painting of the Visitation a few years ago, ascribes this painting to the middle of the thirteenth century or a little later. The gallery and several other parts of the church seem to have been altered about 1480.

Thirty-three years ago I asked the late Mr. C. W. Caroe (then architect to the Ecclesiastical Commission) to visit this little church and see if, without altering its character,

it might be made somewhat more comfortable for those attending its services. I was, however, anxious not to disturb the three-decker pulpit which dates from 1632. He replied as follows:

I have visited Dale Abbey and was immensely interested to find so untouched and remarkable an example of what may unequivocally be called the genuine church of the Anglican Protestant period. It seems to me to be a unique survival. . . . The little shrine breathes of the Stuarts, the Commonwealth and the Early Georges.

Strangely and fortunately enough it has escaped those Victorian cleansings which have obliterated so much history. And inasmuch as the period of which it is so redolent is a genuine historical one, and a great one too, my plea to you is to leave this quaint survival, as far as it can possibly be left, severely alone. Let it continue to tell its story of these ancestors of ours who, no matter what their incongruities and carelessness in the outward forms of their worship, as witnessed by what we find in this little chapel, nevertheless did so much for the making of our England. There are many records of the state of the churches of this period preserved in books and prints, but only this one complete, of all I know at least, in the country, and our forbears deserve at least one such preserved to the memory even of their incongruities.

And so, largely, it has remained. The Church House, now a farm-house, was unfortunately re-built in 1883. Prior to 1820 it had been the Blue Bell Inn. The rumour used to be that when the sermon began the choir adjourned to the inn, leaving one of their number to recall them in time to sing the Amen at the end of the Blessing. For the accuracy of this story I cannot vouch!—STANHOPE, Chevening, Sevenoaks.

## HALDON BELVEDERE

SIR,—This fine tower, built in the memory of a friend, stands 800 ft. above sea level at Haldon overlooking Exeter. It is called Lawrence Castle and was built in 1788 by Sir Robert Palk, Governor of Madras, to remember Major-General Stringer Lawrence. The floor of the hall and spiral staircase of the tower, probably unique in this country, are of coddaph, a type of Indian marble, shipped to England by the Maharaja of Hyderabad, a great friend of the General. In the ballroom is a floor of mahogany brought from the East Indies. The hall is now normally open to the public.—F. R., Exeter.

## PASTEURISED MILK

SIR,—After reading Professor Garrod's article in COUNTRY LIFE (February 12) I would like to emphasise what a lot must still be done to make the woman in the street realise what pasteurisation really means.

Take this instance. Just before the war I wanted some special milk for a young girl, and went to one of the best dairies in the town and asked for some pasteurised milk. There was an open receptacle on the side of the counter with a measure hanging on it. It was a dusty, windy day, and the door was kept open. The assistant, when asked for the milk, went straight to this vessel and proceeded to pour out some milk from it. I refused it and demanded pasteurised, and she insisted that this milk was pasteurised, so I said "When?" "This morning early," she replied, and added that it had then been brought to the counter for sale. She was furious that I insisted on a sealed bottle.

What is the sense of having germs destroyed at the source of the milk supply if you can still get millions more at the shop?

Therefore if milk is specially labelled as being of a certain standard

it should still be at that standard of purity when bought, and only sold bottled.—NURSE.

## YORKS

SIR,—The name yorks (for the leather straps worn below the knee, as a kind of trouser-garter, is still current in central Berkshire. "The older generation of day-men and carters," remarked a farm worker to whom I happened to mention yorks some three days before your correspondent's letter appeared, "would feel undressed without 'em."—J. D. U. WARD, Bradfield, Berkshire.

SIR,—I would like to confirm from my own experience in Devon and the south-western counties during the past 20 years that the practice of tying the legs of corduroy trousers with string, as mentioned by Surgeon-Lieutenant Randell, still persists among the older men and many young men too, chiefly farm-hands and roadmen.

Trousers tied in such a fashion are known as yorks, and the purpose is to keep the bottoms out of the mud and to give knee-room when bending instead of having to pull at the creases as many (?) of us do.—J. M. M. HUXTABLE, Major, R.E., Oxford.

## ENGLAND'S ANCIENT BEACONS

SIR,—I wonder how many of your readers who were interested in your account of the fire beacons of years ago (January 29) are aware of another system of communication which existed in the small watch-towers built in a line from Portsmouth to London from which, by hand signals, messages passed. Of these one, a wooden structure, still stands, and passengers on the Southern Railway main line from Waterloo, just after passing Clapham Junction, on the right, can see the tower on top of the bank, an interesting relic, which passed on the news of the Battle of Trafalgar. The time taken, as I am told, for the message from Portsmouth to London was 20 minutes. I wonder how many passengers know of or have noticed this interesting and historic timber structure.—WM. CASH, Coombe Wood, Coombe Lane, Croydon.

## ELVES IN DEVON

SIR,—I have just been reading with much appreciation the delightful article *An Elf in Devon* by M. Forster Knight. It may be of interest that some years ago I sent one of the "elves" to a well-known naturalist, who stated that these green and interesting large insects are of the locust family and that the females deposit their eggs in the soil through a spike. I have kept them for a day or two in captivity; they soon get very tame, and one I had loved being rubbed under the chin; also I can confirm Miss Forster Knight's statement that they can "nip." I was motoring along a Devon lane in a high wind and two of these insects were blown into the car; one cannoned off the windscreen and alighted on the back of my hand; being, I suppose, excited he gave me a distinct bite, but not hard enough to break the skin.

That they can sing is news to me. I shall try to come across them again next time I revisit Devon.

There is also a strange black beetle that I have seen in Devon; one year they literally swarmed. They are about 1 in. long, and I came across the name given to them in some book or other, but I am no entomologist and cannot remember it now. They appeared to me to be more like degenerate miniature scorpions, and when disturbed elevated their tail ends over their backs. The same, on which I discovered these creatures, swarmed with insect life, including some well-developed vipers. When a certain company, including some



Scotsmen, were stationed nearby, during the present war, they discovered a family of these adders and were throwing them to one another, but were dissuaded by a local inhabitant, to whom the Scotsmen said: "They are just wee bit snakies and we take them up with the sand." I suppose the Scots were too surprised to bite.—CHAS. E. EVANS, Lieut.-Commander, R.V.R., *Nailsea Court, Nailsea, Somerset*.

[The blue beetle that turns its tail over its back is popularly known as the Devil's coach-horse and scientifically as *Ocyporella olens*.—ED.]

SIR.—The very green grasshoppers does not say whether they deposited little packets of eggs, towards the end of their summer life. The common grasshopper seals its eggs in tiny capsules of a shell-like hardness: so hard and so tightly glued to the inner side of the egg that I mistook the first one for a small dried-up slug. Doubtless, in natural surroundings, the grasshopper's nests are hidden in turf—"sprung" like these bright creatures, from the soil whereon their endless generations dwell." It is interesting to learn that giant cicadas occur in England, and that they sing by night like their cousins the hearth crickets.

Are they indigenous to Devon, or are they an escape, like the funny stick insects which, as children, we bought for 3d. each at a bird-shop over Covent Garden Market? We bought two: which was unnecessary. A solitary "stick" was competent to populate the schoolroom. The tribe became a nuisance—more prolific than the plague of guinea-pigs. They did not eat the furniture: but all our pennies were expended upon lettuce. Then I had a bright idea. I took a cardboard boxful to the Zoological Gardens, thinking they might prove useful food for foreign birds. On a subsequent visit to the Gardens I observed that the interior of a heated glass-house was alive with green "sticks." I came away without claiming acquaintance.—H. B. H., *Ambleside*.

### A SHAKESPEARE TRADITION

SIR,—Further to *A Shakespeare Tradition* which is the subject of a letter in your issue of February 5, I would like to point out that the "tradition"



### ST. ALKELDA'S MARTYRDOM

See letter "Treasures in Middleham Church".

linking the tithe barn with Mr. Harrington's Playhouse has arisen in modern times as the result of a blunder by a local antiquary (now deceased) who misread and misinterpreted a manuscript.

The Playhouse certainly did exist. It was built in the town of Prescott, which adjoins both Knowsley and Eccleston, in about the year 1600. It is referred to many times in Prescott court rolls, surveys and school accounts of the seventeenth century, and its position can be exactly determined.

Though an interesting old building, the Eccleston barn was quite definitely not the Playhouse in question, and I beg to take this opportunity of correcting an erroneous impression.—F. A. BAILEY, *Hon. Editor, The Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, Prescott, Lancashire*.

### TREASURES IN MIDDLEHAM CHURCH

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of one of two beautifully coloured oval lights which were originally portholes in the saloon of a yacht, *The Alkelda*, built about 1850 for Sir William Topham. They have a fitting home now in the vestry windows of Middleham Church, Yorkshire.

Middleham Church is one of two

churches (the other is at Giggleswick) in the country dedicated to St. Alkelda, who is said to have been a Saxon princess and was strangled by two Danish women because of her faith and purity.

There was a tradition that St. Alkelda was buried in Middleham Church and, curiously enough, during restorations in 1876, human remains were found in the nave in the very spot indicated which experts said were those of a woman and sufficiently ancient to be Saxon.—J. A. CARPENTER, *Harrogate*.

### SOME INTERESTING MEDALS

SIR,—I am sending you photographs of five medals. The Crimean War Medal with four clasps—Alma (letters worn off), Sebastopol, Inkermann, and Balaklava—together with the Turkish Medal (photograph No. 2) were won by Sergeant Henry Murrow of the 11th Hussars who, with a spare horse named Ronald, rode behind Lord Cardigan (in case his horse was shot) in the famous Charge of the Light Brigade at the Battle of Balaklava on October 25, 1854, when out of 600 men fewer than 200 returned. His name and regiment are inscribed on the edge of the medal. Crimean War

medals with four clasps are rare, and are sought after by collectors, because Balaklava was a cavalry battle, the others infantry battles, but on account of the shortage of infantrymen some cavalrymen took part in the Battle of Inkermann—known as "the soldiers' battle" in the blinding mist of a November morning, 1854, and in the Battle of the Heights of Alma on September 20, 1854. Sergeant Murrow died in Birmingham in 1900 and these medals were given to me by his widow.

The copper medal, the reverse of which is shown, was won by an Indian native camp-follower in the Boxer Rising in China in 1900 who died before the medal was issued. It came into the possession of my brother, Major H. H. Nurse of the 22nd Bombay Native Infantry, who was with the regiment during the campaign in China. All military medals are made either of silver or bronze, with the exception of those issued to the camp-followers of the Indian Army who follow the native troops and do their cooking according to their own customs, which are made of copper. On the edge of the medal is inscribed "Syce Mattu, 22nd Bombay Infantry."

The Iron Cross was a Prussian Order instituted on March 10, 1813, by Frederick William III to be conferred for distinguished services in war. It was made of iron to commemorate the grim "iron" period at which it was created. The Order was revived by William I on July 19, 1870, on the eve of the war with France, and was distributed freely in the Great War, 1914-18. The name of the man who won this Iron Cross dated 1813 is unknown, and I have no record of how it came into my possession.

The bronze star with monogram V.R.I. in the centre surrounded by the words "Kabul to Kandahar" with the date 1880 inscribed below was issued to commemorate the famous march of General Sir Frederick Roberts from Kabul to Kandahar in order to relieve the British garrison in Kandahar besieged by the followers of Ayub Khan. On August 9, 1880, Sir Frederick Roberts set out with 10,000 troops and 10,000 baggage animals with 8,000 native followers from Kabul and arrived at Kandahar three weeks later and routed Ayub Khan completely, capturing his artillery and camp. A bronze star was given to each survivor. This medal is inscribed on the back "Private Sheik Chotoo, 29th Regt. Bombay Native Infantry." At the close of the year 1880, General Sir F. Roberts was honoured with a baronetcy, and in 1895 he was made



1.—CRIMEAN, WITH FOUR CLASPS. 2.—THE TURKISH CRIMEAN MEDAL, ISSUED TO SOME ENGLISH TROOPS. 3.—COPPER MEDAL (REVERSE) ISSUED TO INDIAN ARMY CAMP-FOLLOWERS, BOXER CAMPAIGN, 1900. 4.—IRON CROSS, ORIGINAL ISSUE, 1813. 5.—THE BRONZE STAR, "KABUL TO KANDAHAR," 1880.

See letter "Some Interesting Medals".



### ROBIN ALERT IN THE PRIME OF LIFE AND—

See letter "The Ways of the Robin"

a field-marshal.—EUSTON J. NURSE, the Rev. Canon, *The Rectory, Windermere, Westmorland.*

### TOO MUCH PLOUGH

SIR,—The following copy of a printed notice in my possession may be interesting in view of the present drive for the ploughing up of more grass land. The minatory tone of the communication will be observed.

"SUTTON HALL,

February 17th, 1798.

"Mr. and Mrs. CLARKE and their Trustees have observed, that the greater Number of their Tenants have exceeded the Proportion of Land which they were allowed to break up, under the Articles by which they held their Farms during the former Trust. And that altho' the present Trust has continued above four Years, and that the Tenants must have known by their New Agreements with the Trustees, that they were bound under a Penalty to reduce the Quantity of Ploughed Land, many of them have continued to break up fresh Land to the great Prejudice of the Trust Estates.

"It is not the Wish of Mr. and Mrs. CLARKE or their Trustees to avail themselves of the Opportunity given them of suing the Tenants for the Penalties incurred previous to their entering into Possession of the Estates; but as it is their Duty to put an effectual Stop to a Practice, which is in the end ruinous to the Tenant as well as the Estate, they think it proper to give this Notice, that they intend to sue every Tenant who has broken up fresh Land this present Year without Permission, and whose Proportion of ploughed Land had already exceeded one third, or who had not previously laid down some Land.

"And they expect that such Tenants as wish to continue on the Estates, will seriously set themselves to reduce the Quantity of ploughed Land within the Proportion allowed by their Articles, which will in the End contribute to their own Prosperity, and which the Trustees are sorry to observe is absolutely necessary to be enforced, if they wish to discharge their own Duty, or to prevent the Property from being ruined."

I have no knowledge of the situation of the estate.—A. J. BURROWS, *Ashford, Kent.*

### AT OXFORD

SIR,—Despite the war a certain amount of renovation work still proceeds at Oxford. This photograph shows the richly coloured gilt bosses of the ceiling of the cloisters at Magdalen College underneath the tower.—F. R. W., *Bristol.*

### A GARDEN IN KENYA

SIR,—Major Jarvis in his *Countryman's Notes* of August 12, 1942, is kind enough to refer to the article in *COUNTRY LIFE* about my garden in Kenya (July 17, 1942). Have I been luckier than Major Jarvis? I have made no fewer than 10 gardens in Kenya, varying from coast and desert to highlands of 7-8,000 ft.; of desert

sand, disintegrated coral rag, to alluvial river soil and highland forest loam. But it has not been always an unmixed blessing: it has meant moving about from pillar to post.

The pools shown in the photographs illustrating the article have trout in them and also a minute indigenous barbel. I have goldfish in some artificial tanks. I have tried several kinds but they do not do very well. I am a little too high for them. Also, both my tame ground hornbills and wild otters regularly take a toll of them.—H. B. SHARPE, *Ndaracwa, Ngobil, Kenya.*

### THE WAYS OF THE ROBIN

SIR.—I read the article, *The Ways of the Robin*, by Mr. E. L. Grant Watson in a recent issue of *COUNTRY*

our gardener's hand and once or twice inadvertently perched on mine to take crumbs. When he discovered his mistake he looked quite disconcerted, hastily flew to another perch and cocked his head on one side. I send you a photograph of him—an elegant and alert little bird in the prime of his life—and another portrait when his strength was failing. He was really too old to tackle the very large worm which cost him five convulsive swallows before it disappeared inside. He was quite overcome with the effort and collapsed on the grass. I was able to walk up to him and take his photograph in a leisurely manner while he sat there prostrate. In a quarter of an hour he recovered and flew away briskly, but a week later he died a natural death from old age.—CATHERINE M. CLARK, *Fayrer Holme, Windermere.*



### COBHAM'S FOLLY AT BUCKINGHAM

See letter "A Buckingham Folly"

LIFE: it described our familiar little garden friend from an original angle. I can bear out your correspondent's description from an observation of my own of the great effort involved when a robin swallows a very large worm.

We had a tame robin for two or three years which fed regularly from

### A BUCKINGHAM FOLLY

SIR.—On entering the wide main street of Buckingham, the first object which strikes the eye is this squat castellated building.

This mock castle was built by Lord Cobham in 1784, and has since done duty as the county gaol and later as the fire station.



### THE CEILING OF THE CLOISTERS, MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD

See letter "At Oxford"



### —EXHAUSTED IN OLD AGE AFTER SWALLOWING A LARGE WORM

See letter "The Ways of the Robin"

It is known as Cobham's Folly, having acquired this title from the fact that the builder's original intention was that the building should be his estate office, a magnificent erection for his tenants to visit when paying their rents. He also intended (according to local stories) to imprison those who defaulted, but, of course, his idea was pure "folly," for those who would not or could not pay never came near the place, thus avoiding their promised term of imprisonment.—P. H. LOVELL, *Pinner, Middlesex.*

### AGGRESSIVE FOX-CUBS

SIR.—As a reader of your paper, *COUNTRY LIFE*, I am always most interested in accounts of animal life and possibly you may consider the following worthy of record. Some years ago I farmed in Warwickshire and one evening my son, coming in from the farm, told me that when he was passing a bean field some fox-cubs had growled and "yapped" at him; so the next night I strolled down to see if they would likewise honour me. The bean field was separated from a grass field by a wire fence and cattle were grazing about 20 yards from it. I stood among them moving as they moved on. Soon after the cubs stole out, four of them, and played about just opposite to where I stood and about 15 yards from me. I stood absolutely still and as the cattle moved on the cubs could not make out what the unusual figure could be. They came to within 10 yards of me, squatted on their haunches and growled and "yapped" for at least five minutes. When I moved then they retreated slowly, in good order, turning round to "yap" every few paces. Then with a final "yap" they went through the wire into the beans. J. B. JOHNSON, *Stroud, Gloucestershire.*

[We congratulate our correspondent on his amusing interview with this litter of cubs, the more so as we too have been growled and "yapped" at by cubs. Experience with tame fox cubs leads us to believe that it is only the dog-cubs which utter a gruff "yap," the vixen cubs making a screaming noise, though both sexes utter a similar growl, particularly when half inquisitive and half frightened.—ED.]

### IN THE WIRRAL

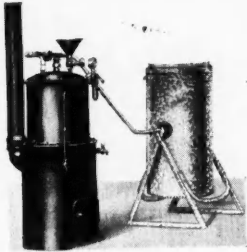
SIR,—In reference to the letter in *COUNTRY LIFE* of January '43 entitled *A Danish Road in the Wirral*, may I make a correction?

The Danes did not make a settlement in Wirral, but there is ample evidence that the Norsemen did.

The old road in question may have been a British one, as the name of Laudican, to which place it leads, is probably of British origin (see *The Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names*). St. Tecan has been equated with the well-known St. Tegan in English Church history, and there is a Ffynnon Degan (St. Tegan's Well) in the parish of Llanwnda in Pembrokeshire.—JAS. A. MILLER, *The Longcroft, Barnston, Wirral.*



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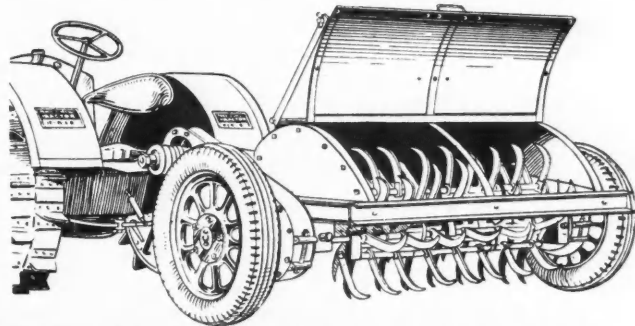
our utmost energies to preserve. To-day, in this our time of need, farm and factory alike strive for maximum production. We at Grantham strain every nerve to meet the ever increasing demands upon our resources necessitated by sterner needs, but our Dairy equipment is still available and requirements can be met if orders are placed early.

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Yours —

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(Extract)

October 3, 1942.

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The machine seems simple in upkeep, but if you have any special lists or tips, or instruction books, can you let me have same?

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) A. W. S. DEAN



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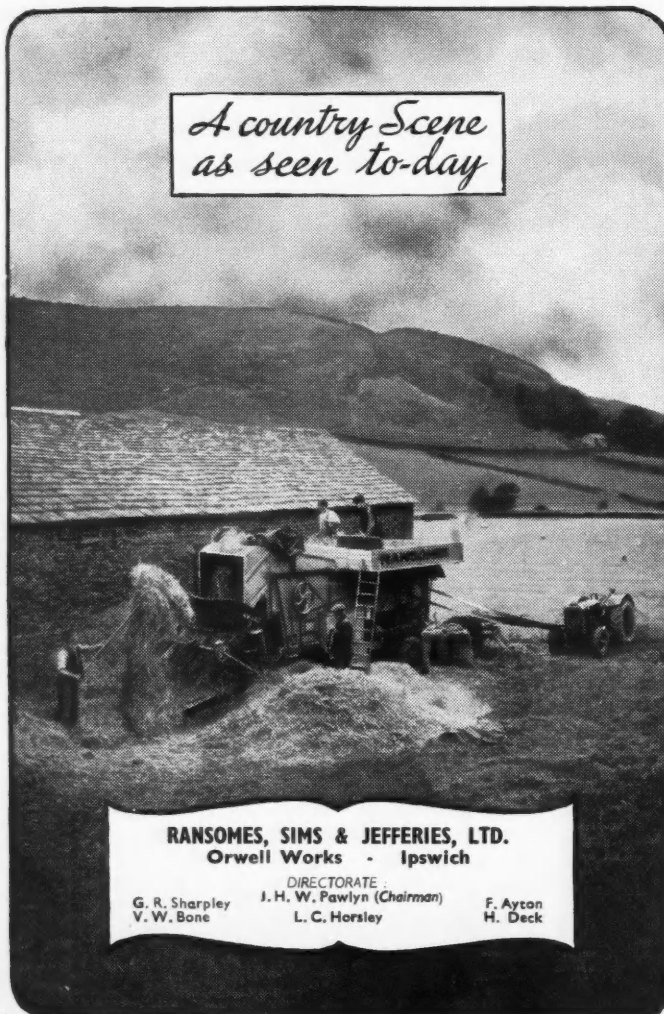
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## FARMING NOTES

# The R.A.S.E. & POST-WAR AGRICULTURE

**A**GRICULTURAL policies are beginning to come thick and fast. The Royal Agricultural Society of England have issued theirs; the Conservative Party have had theirs ready for some months; a group of peers headed by Lord De La Warr have made a start with their ideas, and the Council of the National Farmers' Union have been putting the finishing touches to their policy for agriculture after the war. At the moment the only policy I have seen in detail is that of the R.A.S.E. This is 18 months old, although it has only just been published. Mr. Hudson asked the Council to postpone publication and, while this delay may put the R.A.S.E. at some disadvantage compared with the other bodies who have incorporated more recent experience in their recommendations, it is all to the good that the various policies should come out more or less at the same time and be regarded as complementary. From them we should be able to draw up something like a Beverage Report to show a complete picture of what should be done to ensure that agriculture continues after the war to take a full part in the nation's life.

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**T**HE chief point of the R.A.S.E. proposals is that agriculture should be removed as far as possible from political controversy. A statutory body, somewhat on the lines of the Forestry Commission, is suggested for the purpose of food production and control. Its main duties would be to deal with the present work of the Food Ministry; to function as an Imports Board; to stabilise prices and link guaranteed prices to guaranteed wages; and to make sure that the land is farmed well and that the fertility of the soil is not only maintained but in many cases materially increased. A further proposal is that a definite acreage should be earmarked for agriculture and no death duties should be levied on this. Landowners and farmers would have to submit to a greater measure of control than in pre-war days, and to exercise this control in the national interest there should be set up in each county a special committee with one or more paid executive officers. These officers would travel round the county and report to their committee, who would deal drastically with cases of bad farming. The committee would have to be very carefully chosen and represent the best landowning and farming interests. From their decisions there would be a right of appeal to an impartial tribunal, the members of which would have expert farming knowledge and some legal experience. This would entail the repeal of part, if not all, of the Agricultural Holdings Act of 1923.

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**S**URELY it is highly significant that such stalwarts of agricultural tradition as Sir Arthur Hazle-rigg, Lord Mildmay of Flete, Lord Cranworth, Sir Merrik Burrell, Sir Roland Burke, Sir George Courthope, Sir Archibald Weigall, and Mr. A. H. B. Talbot Ponsonby, the authors of this report, should put their names to such drastic proposals. Agriculture's leaders of the old school, as well as the reformers, are not looking for any easy ride in the future. They realise that if the State is asked to provide guaranteed markets the State will require guarantees of efficiency from the industry. This is as it should be. Under such a scheme the Ministry of Agriculture would stand in the position of guarantor for the farming

industry. The R.A.S.E. asks for a reorganisation of the Ministry. They recall that when the Ministry of Agriculture was established to replace the Board of Agriculture, the purpose was to create a Ministerial Department with a statutory advisory committee to control agricultural administration, and act as guide, philosopher and friend to the farming community. Successive Ministers have been loyally served by a team of industrial and zealous officials, but it is essential that all those who come in direct touch with the farming community should have sufficient training in agriculture to be able to meet the farmer on equal terms and speak his own language. To carry out this idea, the suggestion is that five "Surveyors of Food Production" (four for England and one for Wales) should be appointed to the staff of the Ministry and drawn from the ranks of those who have farmed successfully themselves, to be graded as first grade civil servants commanding high salaries. Incidentally, this is a development of the war-time system of Minister's liaison officers, each of them specially qualified in some way, practical or scientific, to give good advice on policy and be responsible for contacts with a group of counties.

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**A**FURTHER suggestion from the R.A.S.E. is that the whole basis of entry into the Ministry and promotion be reorganised and that almost every entrant should undergo training to include at least one year's practical work on a farm. He should either take a degree in agriculture at a university or a two years' course at a leading agricultural college, where after taking a diploma he could graduate into the Ministry. Thus, in a few years' time "the Minister would have at his call a trained body of practical men, and in the farming community a sense of confidence and security would be engendered." No longer would it be possible for this kind of thing to happen. A farmer completing a threshing return form under the heading "Name of Contractor Owning Threshing Machine," stated merely "Combine Harvester." The form came back with a request for the address of Mr. Combine Harvester.

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**B**EFORE February was out the corn drills were busy again on some of the lighter soils getting in the barley. If we get some dry weeks, everyone will be as busy as he can be on the land. We all have a big programme of sowing in front of us and with heavy arrears of threshing to be made good, too, every dry day now is precious. Most of us reckon to get through the larger part of the corn threshing before March, but with many more ricks this time and so many delays through wet, there is a heavy accumulation. Some of the barley and oats are wanted for spring sowing and such threshing will no doubt be given priority. The wheat will have to wait until early summer, except, I would suggest, where the ricks are infested with rats. These ricks ought to be threshed straight away. Once rats are thick in a rick it is impossible to deal with them effectively until the rick is threshed. Something can be done, of course, by trapping in the runs outside the rick, but from my experience I say that gassing in ricks is just a waste of time. Nor do I like the idea of poison baits put round the rick bottom. None of the poison may get into the grain at threshing, but it is a risk that I do not fancy.

CINCINNATUS.

## THE ESTATE MARKET

YIELD OF INTEREST  
ON REAL ESTATE

PROBABLY the majority of owners, and persons contemplating purchase or acquiring a permanent and with the immediate return on the quantum of interest, but they the supreme test of property session or to be bought.

Speculation has practically come to an end for the time being, and of small measure of success seems toward those who offer premises which are said to be capable of adaptation to profitable uses after the war is over. There is comparative little sound and rent-producing real estate, other than farms, in the open market, and, if prices rise high for it investors prefer to pay them rather than pick up "bargains" that may prove of problematical and remote profit.

## THE INVESTOR'S TASK

THREE per cent. or slightly less may be assumed to represent the gross yield on the bulk of what are conveniently called "gilt-edged" securities, and these involve no expense or trouble in management, and the interest is automatically paid without cost of collection. But the rate of interest is inadequate in the case of real estate, for many reasons. Looking at the matter from the angle of a new purchase, it will be seen that the selection, valuation and acquisition of a property may cost quite a considerable sum, and afterwards, either personally or through an agent, the property has to be managed, and maintenance costs, sometimes very onerous, have to be borne, and the risk of being unable to find a tenant, or of letting to tenants who cannot or will not pay the rent, has to be taken into account. Naturally and properly, therefore, the buyer of any type of real property expects a higher rate of return than on other classes of investment.

## PROFIT PERCENTAGES I

ONE type of property—agricultural land—has lately been the subject of very definite statements by leading agents as to the amount of the annual yield that may be expected. One firm says "nearly 5 per cent," another puts it at from 3¼ to 4¼ per cent., and another at 4 per cent. On the whole, seeing how much depends on the personal equation of landlords and tenants, and the uncertainty as to the nature and extent of "public burdens" (as the Scots call them), it seems safer to avoid definite promises of a particular rate of interest, and to do as so many agents invariably do, namely, to state the gross rent and the expected amount of purchase money, and leave the buyer to make his own calculations as to present and prospective yield. The latter method obviates any ground for a grievance. It treats of established facts and frees agents and vendors from the dangerous rôle of prophecy.

## VALUE OF GRAVEL BEDS

IT is significant that the particulars of sale of properties at present wholly or partly for disposal—the unsold estates of the Hook and Warsna's estate on the Hamble River, and a large farm near Goodwood—specially draw the attention of interested parties to the fact that there are deep beds of gravel on the properties. "Gravel land" near Hook was included in the 36 lots

which Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. sold for a total of £42,300, and gravel beds are specified in Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff's details of about 160 acres, in the vicinity of Chichester. This holding (still commonly referred to in the district as the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's—indeed one of the two lots is called Duke's) comes into the market "by order of the Goodwood Estate Company (through Mr. R. A. Hubbard)." The auction of the freeholds will be held at Chichester on March 10 "unless previously sold privately." On the map accompanying the particulars Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff have indicated seven points at which test holes have been dug, and they specify the depth of the top soil (from 1 ft. to 6 ft.), and the thickness of the gravel beds (from 8 ft. to 32 ft.). Under the gravel there is a thin sandy stratum, and below that the London clay. The agents justly point out that the district has always been noted for its gravel beds, but they add that so insistent is the demand for gravel that supplies are "in some danger of exhaustion." Of course, this is not because of any lack of gravel beds but because they are in situations where the surface use and other value of the land far outweigh the business advantage of working the underlying deposits.

## SUBURBAN GRAVEL PITS

NEAR London, in what are now really inner suburbs, gravel was won not many years ago as local development progressed, and the prime movers in what the agents call "the gravel industry" still prefer, if they can, to get gravel from places at no great distance from London, at any rate for London jobs. Some of the worked-out gravel pits were used as dumps, and some became ponds. Where refuse eventually restored the level to that of the adjacent surface it was often after the dump had been for years a smoking nuisance. A London agent of unrivalled experience in estate development in recent years says that, in his opinion, the time needed to solidify dumping-ground in disused gravel pits is not less than 25 years. Too often, however, such ground has been most regrettably built on in a much shorter period.

In considering gravel workings in country districts, however, the eventual use of the excavated ground is not, as a rule, a pressing problem, much as the loss of the surface for food production may be regretted. That the market value of gravel beds is advancing will occasion no surprise, seeing the vast present, and still vaster future, requirement of it for concrete.

## LINCOLNSHIRE FARMS

LORD BROWNLOW, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, has just purchased a noted Fen freehold of 315 acres, called Sellars Farm, at Sutterton Drove, in the neighbourhood of Boston. The vendor, Mr. John F. Powers, will continue to farm there. Other Lincolnshire agricultural land to change hands in the last week or two consists of such holdings as Pyewipe Farm, 199 acres, at Tathwell, near Louth; and Southfield Farm, 133 acres, not far from the same market town.

Mr. Walford Izod, for whom Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff acted, has concluded a contract for the sale of Rumer Hall Farm, 255 acres, with house and other premises, at Welford-on-Avon, near Stratford-on-Avon, towards the Vale of Evesham.

ARBITER.

## HARRODS



**Furniture—  
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## NEW BOOKS

## WHAT IS A NOVEL?

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

WHAT is a novel? *The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* answers the question with a pedantic precision: "A fictitious prose narrative of considerable length, in which characters and actions representative of real life are portrayed in a plot of more or less complexity."

Not bad, as scientific definitions go, but it leaves out the essence. Taine, in his *History of English Literature*, asks: "What is a novelist?" and his answer is: "A psychologist, who naturally and involuntarily sets psychology at work; he is nothing else, nor more." Psychology, mark you—not psycho-analysis. Taine wrote before Jung, Freud and Co. arose to spell damnation to so many a good novelist. When a man first conceives his characters in psycho-analytical terms and then proceeds to work all out according to the book, he is indeed in a sorry way. A novelist's psychological work should unfold itself, as Taine so truly perceived, "naturally and involuntarily," so that the psychology is deduced by the reader from the character's action, which is an altogether different thing from those actions being determined by a preconceived process of psycho-analysis.

## NOT A NOVEL

This question of what is a novel and what is a novelist has been brought to the forefront of my mind by several recent books calling them-

selves novels, and by none more than by Miss Magdalen King-Hall's *Lord Edward* (Peter Davies, 9s. 6d.). I should not myself have called it a novel at all, but the author gives it that description on the title page. Wherein, in this book, is the faculty of a novelist employed? Nowhere that I can see.

The story is of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, a younger son of a Duke of Leinster, who saw some service against the colonists during the American War of Independence, became taken with revolutionary ideas in France, married a girl whom some have supposed to be a daughter of Madame de Genlis and a royal person, impulsively renounced his title, plotted against the English Crown in Ireland, and died in consequence of a wound received while resisting arrest.

Now all this is good material for a novelist. True, it is fact, not fiction; but, despite what the *Shorter Oxford* may say, a novel need not be fictitious, and the characters need not be "representative of" real life. They can be the characters of life itself. But—and

this is the crux of the thing, this is where Taine's "psychology" comes in—they have got to pass through the crucible of the author's imagination and come out with his own peculiar stamp and super-scription upon them. Otherwise, what is produced is a biography, not a novel. Something happened in Dickens's mind before Mr. John Dickens became Mr. Wilkins Micawber, and that something must happen, too, even to a character who comes into a novel in his own right and under his own name. He must be sharpened, clarified, intensified.

Moreover, before a series of historical events can be set forth in fiction, the material must be manipulated and moulded. There must be selection and arrangement, high lights and level planes. In this book, all goes forward in the same ding-dong prosy fashion. The author has no faculty for either omission or emphasis. Everything that Fitzgerald did, every person he met, however casually, in America, on the Continent of Europe, in Ireland, is dragged in; and those interludes of pure fiction, with

which the inventive faculty of a great historical novelist bridges and illustrates whole tracts of dull actuality are wholly missing. Perhaps it is this absence of the inventive faculty which, more than anything else, forbids us to accept the author's description of her book as a novel and compels us to call it a not very lively biography.

## CLOAKED BIOGRAPHY

The book recently reviewed here which was a cloaked biography of Katherine Mansfield is another to raise this question: What is a novel? The author came nearest to meeting the needs of the case than Miss King-Hall does; and Mr. Robert Graves's *Wife to Mr. Milton* (Cassell, 10s. 6d.) is an example of what the historical novel can be when perfectly handled.

I don't like Mr. Graves's novel and I don't like the publisher's "blurb" on the jacket, which presents Milton as a dull bore from whom one should flee. But there are many things which I do not personally like that I can admire for their craftsmanship and virtuosity.

The background is wholly admirable. The girl, Mary Powell, who was Milton's first wife, was the daughter of an Oxfordshire squire, and Mr. Graves's picture of the sort of life that was lived in those days in the sort of society is a miracle of vivid evocation. I don't say reconstruction for the word suggests a painstaking

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and scientific piling together of facts; and though that, no doubt, is the workshop background, the artistic consequence is a living flash of creation from the writer's mind to the reader's. And so with all the background of the novel, in town or country.

#### WHAT REALLY HAPPENED?

What is the author's and his wife, and cement that Mr. what really happened? What "really" be a matter for little is known all for the bio- to be employed. to fall back, as a on creation: he an idea of what people to set his thing.

We are, then, with a question of probability; and I do not except this John Milton and his wife probabilities of the meeting the too bad and she too good. But a learned bore—nothing else—who, even on his wedding night, is unable to act like a spontaneous human being; she is a thing all cheer and gaiety, a flower that could find no earth for its roots in his dour uncompromising rock.

Now, whatever else Milton may have been, he was a great poet—one of the three greatest poets this country has produced; and great poetry does not flow out of a pool choked and stagnant with the mere verbiage of erudition; yet such a choked and stagnant pool is the man here presented. That such a man would have dark irritable moods is beyond doubt; but I think it is also beyond

a doubt that he would have the moods of grace and tenderness that are the countervailing attributes of poetic genius. But not once in the book is he permitted to address to his wife a word of common affection or homely cheer. An author is entitled to present his characters as he sees fit; and a reader no less is entitled to decide whether he finds in them credibility or caricature. This Milton seems to me a caricature of the grossest sort, drawn by an author who began with a dislike of the man he intended to set forth.

In the passage I have already referred to, Taine speaks of the novelist's job in presenting objectionable types. "He represents them to us as they are, whole, not blaming, not punishing, not mutilating them; he transfers them to us intact and separate, and leaves to us the right of judging if we desire it. His whole effort is to make them visible."

Here, I feel, Mr. Graves has blamed, punished, mutilated; he has sought not to make visible but to blacken and belittle; and so thoroughly has he done this that he leaves us unmoved, asking: "Where in all this is Milton, who, after all, left behind him a few traces by which we might recognise him?"

#### PERFECT RECAPTURE

A charming book, which reads almost like personal reminiscence, is Miss Flora Thompson's *Candleford Green* (Oxford University Press, 7s. 6d.) Candleford Green is a typical English village, and it is presented to us as it existed towards the end of last century. The whole picture is poised in the serenity of an autumn day, caught at a point of perfection whose poignancy lies in the knowledge that

the storm of change is about to lay it all low.

We may look upon Miss Thompson's picture as true of almost any village before the motor buses came to link it up with the nearest cinemas and multiple shops, and to give back to it in turn maisonettes to house those who were destined to kill the thing they loved.

#### POST-OFFICE FLAG

Candleford Green was one of those villages so small that when a telegram arrived at the post office, there had to be a scurrying round for a local messenger to deliver it. (I myself know a village where, even now, when a telegram comes, the post-mistress puts a flag outside the post office. Then all the small boys run and the first to arrive delivers the telegram and receives a tip.)

I was interested to find in the book another instance of a thing I have often noticed: the wide spread of the nonsense rhymes that children sing. In Candleford Green, says Miss Thompson, they sang:

There goes the bobby with his  
black shiny hat  
And his belly full of fat,  
And a pancake tied to his nose.

I grew up not in a village but in a town, and it was removed by many counties from Candleford Green. There we say:

I wish I was a p'liceman,  
Dressed in p'liceman's clo'es,  
With a big box hat,  
A belly full of fat,  
And a pancake on his nose.

The "box hat" can be understood, because policemen *did* wear top-hats not so long ago; and the belly full of fat has at least a human interpretation. But what of the pan-

cake on the nose? Is this just children's nonsense, or is there something behind it that we have forgotten?

Lovers of the old country scene should not miss Miss Thompson's perfect recapture. "It could not," as she justly remarks, "survive in a changing world where machines were already doing what had been men's work and what had formerly been the luxuries of the few were becoming necessities of the many; but in its old age it had some pleasant aspects and not everything about it was despicable."

Side by side with books like Miss Thompson's, which commemorate a vanished way of living in the country, there is springing up an increasing literature of the new way. Many townsmen are feeling the pull back to the land. Mr. McGuffie, Mr. Adrian Bell, Mr. H. J. Massingham, and many others, each from his own angle of vision, has told a story in itself fundamentally the same: a story of the realisation that man is happier, even in hardship, with his feet on the soil.

#### BUSINESS MAN'S FARM

A business man, Mr. Clifton Reynolds, began to tell the same story in *Glory Hill Farm*, and he now follows up that beginning with *Glory Hill Farm: Second Year* (John Lane, 7s. 6d.). This is the year when the enchantment of adventure was wearing thin and all the exasperating war-time problems of farming crowded thick and fast about the devoted head of this versatile business man-farmer-artist-writer. Mr. Reynolds shows himself not a man to be downed by difficulties, but one endowed with humour, resource and resolution. The saga of the second year at Glory Hill makes good reading.

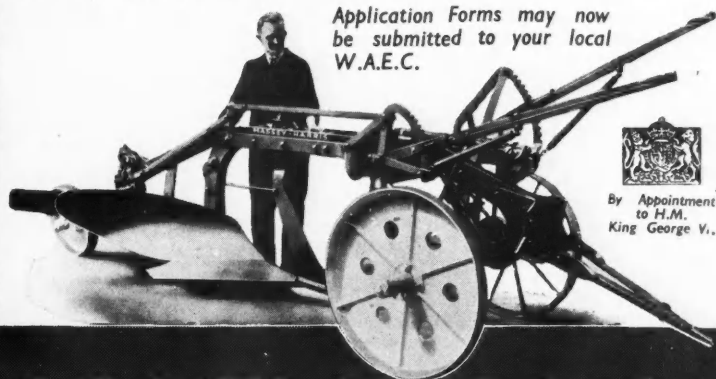
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The suit with shirt jacket from Digby Morton; a neutral tweed in tones of brown with tan buttons and matching leather accessories.

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## DESIGNED IN LONDON

**N**EAT is the operative word that governs all the present fashions, and the word heard constantly at the spring collections. Tailor-mades are neat, almost precise—no wide revers or huge buttons, no wide hemlines or startling materials. Hairlines are neat; necklines are uncluttered. The silhouette is trim, coat frocks are tailored to a T, tunic dresses are slim as reeds with no projecting lines anywhere. Coats fit the figure and are tailored on the lines of a man's. When we come to the fabrics the story is the same. Patterns are small, restrained; no more of those big sprawling florals or out-size checks. Flowers are, in many cases, regimented into lines or stylised till they take the place of dots. They are always small. Everywhere are dotted rayon marocains, striped shirtings, neat gay prints of all descriptions and herring-bone and dice-checked tweeds and suitings.

The Worth collection, the first of the Mayfair designers' to be shown, contained an outstanding series of dark dinner frocks with square or V *décolletés*, not mere necklines, but sufficiently low cut to be definitely dinner dresses and definitely *décolleté*. The newest looking of all has widish tucked epaulettes instead of sleeves, but the others all have short sleeves. The sleeveless one, a very successful dress, has all the fullness in the front of the skirt with a jewel-studded belt. These dresses are in matt black materials—jersey or romaine, or marocain; one with gathered pockets and gauging under the arms has a lowish square neckline. Another short-sleeved one has a border of small white flowers along the bottom of the square neckline. These frocks could not have been neater.

Another outstanding series in this excellent collection is the long, plain coats, over print dresses. There are several in black, collarless, fitting to the waist at the back with slight pouched fullness above, several in pale-coloured tweeds. A dusty pink in a self diagonal tweed with tie belt, a black lining, is worn over a black and pink dress, and makes a charming outfit. The print is in a small flowered design, and the

Thaarup's felt with flower-pot crown and brim that turns up sharply and is piped with a dark ribbon.





## FOR YOUR WEDDING — and long after !

This two-piece ensemble, (Frock and Jacket), by Hershelle is a lovely necessity—especially if you are to be a bride! Finest woollen crêpe in pastel shades...

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MODEL

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One of the new long Shetland cardigans, with the belt outside. It has a sweater that matches. Lillywhites.

flowers are appliquéd to edge the neck and sleeves. Another dusty-pink coat had a square yoke and big stitched patch pockets. This was over a dotted short-sleeved frock which had a high neckline with flat bows of cream organdie ribbon slotted over the top of the breast pockets. The neckband with its neat organdie bow emerged over the collarless coat and finished it off. One of the big winners of the collection is an odd scarlet jacket, collarless with revers opening to the waist and two big patch pockets. It is in smooth cloth, bright as a geranium, and would make a splendid basis for a wardrobe. It is the sort of jacket that could be worn in the country with slacks, in the house for lounging; it would look marvellous over a plain black or navy dress, or over cotton or jersey frocks on cool summer days. A newcomer shown by Worth is the flowered chiffons. These were made into dinner dresses with V necklines and fichus, long tight sleeves. Otherwise the prints were invariably neat and of the kind associated with tie-silk designs.

**T**HE display of Utility cottons and rayons recently held in Manchester showed the same tendency in design. All the florals,



and there was an enormous number of them, were small, and almost conventional in effect. This was a very representative show, and it was encouraging to see all types of material for all kinds of needs in the Utility range, which means a price range per yard of from 1s. 4d. to 6s. for cottons and rayons.

There were excellent corduroys, canvas cottons of the linen type, tough corded cottons and piqués, shirtings, ginghams, lining cottons. Among the rayons were superb ranges of linen-type rayons for tailored frocks, particularly effective in the chalky pastels and deep rich brick reds and greens, fibro suitings and a big range of every kind of spun rayon, marocain and crêpe for frocks and lingerie. The corset materials were excellent and the new corsets and belts should be outstandingly good. These materials certainly allayed a lot of misgivings.

All the fabrics shown at this exhibition were four-figure Utilities—that is, cloths made strictly in accordance with the quality specifications laid down by the Board of Trade. Such fabrics are only now beginning to come on the market. The cotton and rayon dress fabrics used so far in the Government's Utility clothing programme were what is known as three-figure Utilities—that is, cloths taken from available stocks in order not to hold up the Utility clothing programme. You can buy these fabrics in the shops now. The materials shown at Manchester will be available a little later on. They are an inspiring foretaste of what can be done in war-time and what can be done after the war by the co-operation of designers and manufacturers.

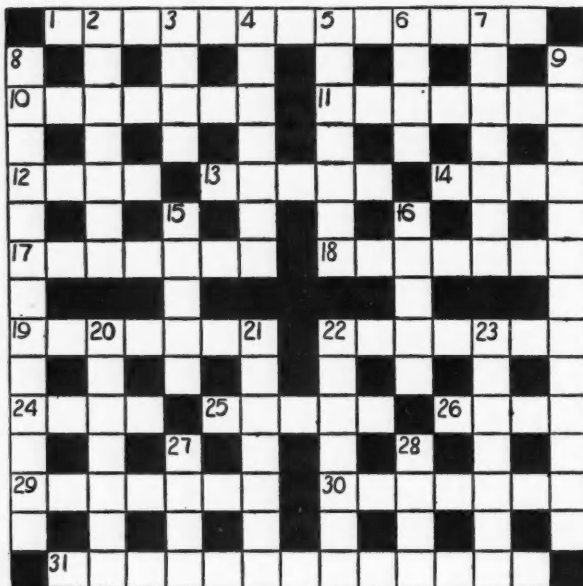
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## CROSSWORD No. 684

A prize of two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 684, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, March 11, 1943.



Name.....

Address.....

**SOLUTION TO No. 683.** The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of February 26, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Wick; 3, Able seaman; 9, Noon; 10, Blood donor; 12, Niobe; 13, Inhere; 15, Tie; 18, Meant; 19, Starlight; 22, Overdrawn; 24, Royal; 25, Eli; 26, Alerts; 29, Climb; 32, Shaven chin; 33, Styte; 34, On the grass; 35, Bred. DOWN.—1, Waning moon; 2, Chocolates; 4, Baltic Sea; 5, Enoch; 6, Endor; 7, Mind; 8, Nard; 11, Petted; 14, Ear; 16, Ugly sister; 17, Stale bread; 20, Amnesties; 21, Lyrics; 23, Rue; 27, Liege; 28, Recur; 30, Oslo; 31, Hart.

### ACROSS

1. Get a ticket here to express vocal disapproval of royalty? Not exactly! (two words, 7, 6)
10. Pined (7)
11. Art of manoeuvring (or finally what the clock does?) (7)
12. A shortage of cosmetics? Made up with cheese, at any rate! (4)
13. It seems as though a Roman historian reaches 500 and becomes dark of hue (5)
14. Hamlet suggested that this mountain might be made to look like a wart (4)
17. In want (7)
18. Camouflage thrashings? (7)
19. A royal hiding place (two words, 3, 4)
22. Virtuous gaiety by the sound of it, and it may be, too! (two words, 4, 3)
24. Seaweed, or only a touch of the sea's specific odour? (4)
25. Lived the wrong way, of course; that's what's the matter with him (5)
26. Provides elevation in U.S.A. and ups and downs here, of course (4)
29. Home of the Apache Indians (7)
30. The bidder's, but not the builder's, bridge (7)
31. How silly to kill the layer of them! (three words, 3, 6, 4)

### DOWN

2. "Pare toe" (anagr.) (7)
3. A notable shrew (4)
4. Just poking (7)
5. Bird favouring capital protection; the rest is projection! (7)
6. Helen's launched a thousand ships (4)
7. "Beauty's ensign yet Is — in thy lips and in thy cheeks."—*Romeo and Juliet* (7)
8. Post-meridian meals (two words, 3, 4)
9. Merely what the Old Man of the Mountain was engaged in (13)
15. An "air 'at"? Well, a head-dress at all events (5)
16. Macbeth called him the teller of life's tale (5)
20. Such a man is to be distinguished from a man of Kent (7)
21. Dance of the optic? It rolls about, anyway (7)
22. Actually a facial distortion, it's not a bad description of a card in the spades suit (7)
23. Present from the market where you can also obtain 22 across (7)
- 27 & 28. In a word, 4,840 sq. yds., by no means short, to be located in London (two words, 4, 4)

The winner of Crossword No. 382 is  
Mr. A. D. Worker,  
46, Whitney Road, Leyton, E.10.



## "WHAT'S COOKING- MUMMY?"

Something good, something  
that hungry children always  
enjoy! A hot dinner cooked  
with OXO makes dishes  
rich, appetising and  
beefy . . .



*For Children's Welfare*

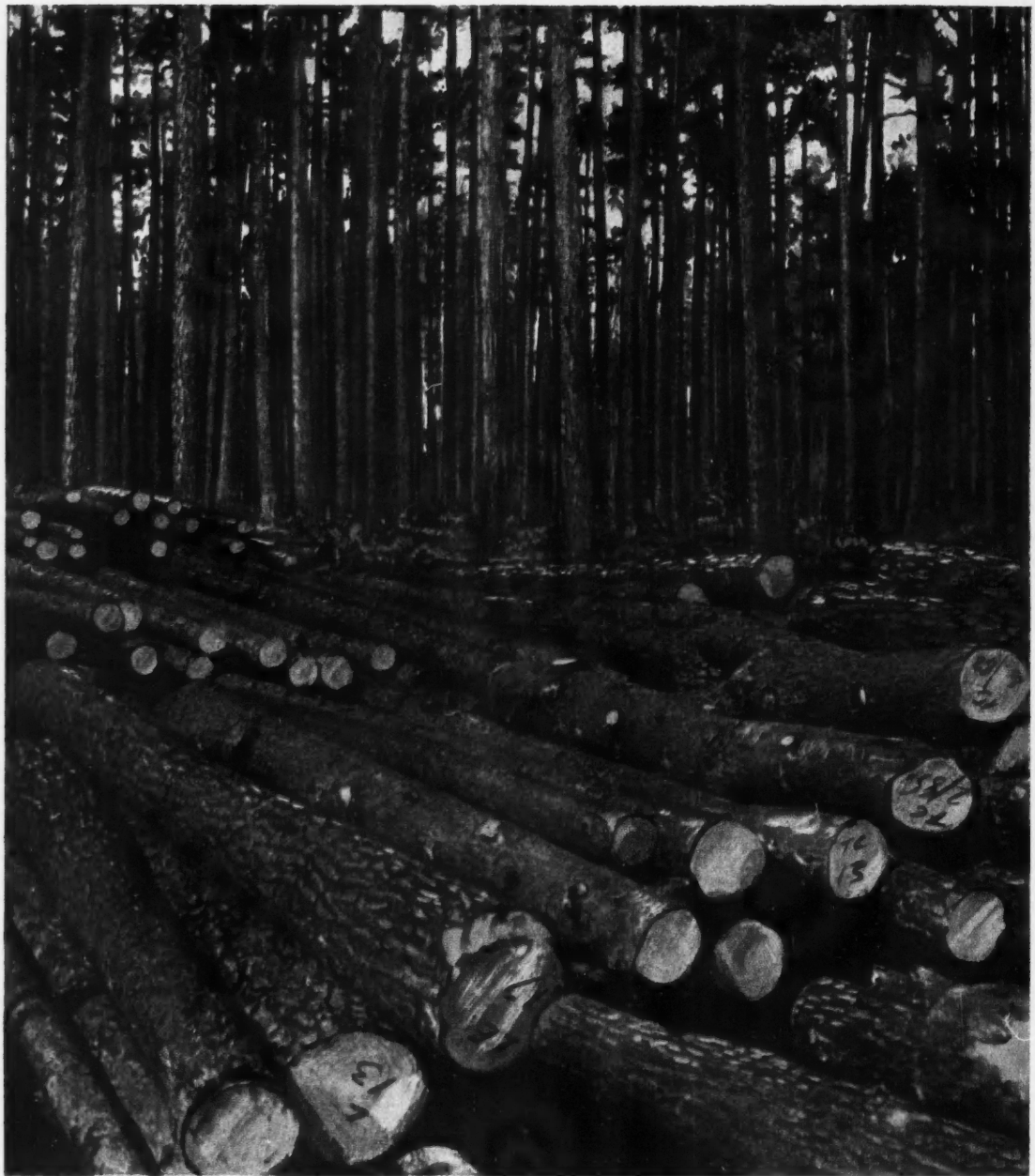
## This endurance



The jet-black night is illuminated only by the burst of bombs and shells. Danger lies ahead in the cratered road, and overhead, where enemy planes lurk panting in the sky. The attack has been long—but the ambulance moves ahead; safely, steadily, in the slender hands of a brave girl. . . . We can't all be ambulance drivers. But we *can* display, in whatever our daily job, this spirit of undaunted endurance. We, too, can bring this uncomplaining courage to conditions of strain, fatigue and discomfort. We too—even the most ordinary of us—can take pride in our determination to "carry on." This is the spirit that is bringing the Victory ever nearer—the spirit that entitles us to take our place in the ranks of those of whom one day the world will say: "*But for their wonderful endurance . . . ?*"



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